
Abstract Proceedings

of the

Twenty-Fourth Meeting

of the

Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay,

held on the

14th and 15th December 1931.

INDIAN CENTRAL COTTON COMMITTEE.

24TH MEETING—14TH AND 15TH DECEMBER, 1931.

ABSTRACT PROCEEDINGS.

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Present :

Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya, K.B.E., (President), Vice-Chairman, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

Sir Joseph A. Kay, Kt., (Vice-President), Representative of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

B. C. Burt, Esq., C.I.E., M.B.E., I.A.S., Agricultural Expert, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research (ex-officio).

T. F. Main, Esq., O.B.E., I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Agricultural Department, Bombay Presidency.

P. B. Richards, Esq., I.A.S., Entomologist to Government, Representative of the Agricultural Department, United Provinces.

D. Milne, Esq., C.I.E., I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Agricultural Department, Punjab.

F. J. Plymen, Esq., C.I.E., I.A.S., Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Agricultural Department, Central Provinces.

S. D. Saklatvala, Esq., Representative of the Bombay Millowners' Association.

Chunilal B. Mehta, Esq., Representative of the Indian Merchants' Chamber.

D. McCallum, Esq., Representative of the Kanachi Chamber of Commerce.

Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal, Representative of the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association.

J. Vonesch, Esq., Representative of the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce.

W. Roberts, Esq., Representative of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation.

Y. G. Deshpande, Esq., Commercial Representative, Central Provinces.

G. P. Chakravarty, Esq., Commercial Representative, Bengal.

M. R. Ry. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder, Avl., Representative of Cotton Growers, Madras.

M. R. Ry. K. Sarabha Reddi, Representative of Cotton Growers, Madras.

Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik, M.L.C., Representative of Cotton Growers, Bombay Presidency.

Rao Saheb C. S. Shirahatti, Representative of Cotton Growers, Bombay Presidency.

Major D. Vanrenen, Representative of Cotton Growers, Punjab.

Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande, Representative of Cotton Growers, Central Provinces and Berar.

M. P. Kolhe, Esq., M.L.C., Representative of Cotton Growers, Central Provinces and Berar.

B. A. Collins, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Director-General and Secretary to Government, Department of Commerce and Industries, Representative of the Hyderabad State.

C. V. Sane, Esq., Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Baroda State.

H. H. Pandya, Esq., Administrative Officer, Department of Agriculture, Representative of the Gwalior State.

F. K. Jackson, Esq., Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore, Representative of Rajputana and Central India States.

D. N. Mahta, Esq., Economic Botanist to Government, Central Provinces.

Dr. W. Burns, I.A.S., Principal, Agricultural College, Poona.

C. R. Palaiet, Esq., Member for Commerce and Industry, Holkar Durbar, Representative of the Holkar State.

W. J. Jenkins, Esq., I.A.S., Chief Agricultural Officer, Sind.

Girdharlal B. Kotak, Esq., Representative of the Karachi Indian Merchants' Association.

Ram Prasad, Esq., Assistant Economic Botanist to Government, United Provinces.

Mohamed Azhar Ali, Esq., M.L.A., Advocate, Lucknow.

The Secretary (J. H. Rickie, Esq., I.A.S.).

The Deputy Secretary (P. H. Rama Reddi, Esq., I.A.S.).

The Director, Technological Laboratory (Dr. Nazir Ahmed).

By invitation.

G. Boyagis, Esq., Messrs. Langley and Co., Bombay (On December 15th only).

Haridas Madhavdas, Esq., J.P., Acting President, East India Cotton Association, Ltd. (On December 15th only).

Letters and telegrams were received from the following members regretting their inability to attend the meeting :—

D. G. Munro, Esq., I.A.S., Deputy Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Agricultural Department, Madras.

F. D. Odell, Esq., I.A.S., Deputy Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Agricultural Department, Burma.

The Director-General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics.

J. Tinker, Esq., Representative of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce.

H. B. Moore, Esq., Commercial Representative, Madras.

Ch. Zafarulla Khan, M.L.C., Commercial Representative, Punjab.

Dr. L. C. Coleman, C.I.E., Director of Agriculture, Representative of the Mysore State.

M. R. Ry. V. Ramanatha Iyer, Avargal, Cotton Specialist, Coimbatore.

President's (Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya's) Speech.

I have great pleasure in welcoming you to this—the 24th meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee and my pleasure is all the more keen because I was not able to meet you at the two previous meetings.

My first duty is a sad one, viz., to inform you of the recent death of one of our members—Rao Bahadur K. J. Deshmukh—who joined the Committee in 1927 as representative of the ginning industry in the Central Provinces and Berar. The late Rao Bahadur was considered one of the most progressive agriculturists in Berar and the success of the Khamgaon Taluk Association, of which he was an original member, is mainly due to the time and enthusiasm he devoted to its working and his great belief in co-operation amongst the growers. Some of the success which the Agricultural Department's recent cotton selection—*Verum*—has had in the Buldana District of Berar must also be credited to him.

In his address to the meeting in July of this year, the Chairman—Sir Joseph Kay—deplored the severance from the Committee of one of its oldest members, Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, and he voiced the feelings of all when he hoped Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas' absence would be temporary only. I am sure you will all rejoice with me at the fulfilment of that hope since Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas has been renominated to the Committee, though unfortunately, owing to his duties in London, he finds it impossible to be present to day. We have at this meeting to deplore the loss to the Committee of a most esteemed and valuable member but who, we trust, will also find himself back with us in the near future. Mr. Ellis Jones was one of the original members of the Committee and for ten years has not spared himself in helping forward its work. Since the beginning he has figured prominently on every Sub-Committee

and for two years performed the arduous duties of Vice-President. Few members are aware of the amount of work which Mr. Ellis Jones has put in for the Technological Laboratory. Every sample of cotton received since the Laboratory started work has been graded by him and his report has appeared in every Spinning Report. Though he is not at present a member of the Committee, he has of his own accord agreed to carry on this work in order that continuity may be preserved. I wish to acknowledge the high debt which the Committee owes to Mr. Ellis Jones ; we shall welcome his return.

Our agenda, though not as long as usual, contains some subjects as important as have ever been before the Committee. At our July meeting, we considered a note prepared by the Secretary on the research work in progress and a tentative programme for the next five years. This note was circulated to all Trade Associations in India and to many individuals and their views solicited. Though replies have not been received from all to whom the pamphlet was sent, several very interesting and thoughtful comments and criticisms have been received and it is our duty at this meeting to study them. I am sure we shall find them of the greatest use in helping us to come to a decision regarding our future policy and I wish to thank those individuals and associations, who replied, for the trouble they have taken to give us their views.

I wish at this stage to remove a misapprehension which is all too common and which has again come prominently to the fore with the circulation of the above mentioned pamphlet, viz., that the Central Cotton Committee is responsible for the cotton work and policy in the Provinces. It cannot be too sufficiently emphasised that the work of improvement in cotton, as in other crops, is the duty of the several Agricultural Departments in India and all the Committee does is to supplement that work especially by supplying funds for the provision of staff and equipment to carry out specific investigations which the Provinces are not in a position to carry out themselves. Nor does the Committee lay down a policy for the Provinces to follow. Owing to its representative character the Committee is, I venture to claim, eminently qualified to advise provincial authorities in regard to cotton matters and can fortify its advice by financial assistance. But it does not possess, and indeed has never sought, the authority to carry out a policy for cotton improvement in India. That is the function of the Agricultural Department.

The chief problem which will engage our attention is—what types of cotton should be grown in India ? Nearly all recent improvement in Indian cottons has been in the direction of increased length of staple and higher counts and research workers have been trying, some with considerable success, to combine the high outturn of the short-staple types with the staple length of the finer Indian varieties. From the growers' point of view, which is shared by every one who has the growers' interests at heart, the cotton recommended should be the one which

gives the highest net monetary return. There can be no doubt that the improved longer staple cottons, which are being distributed at present, do give the grower an increased income, but whether this will continue if a large part of the short staple crop is replaced by cottons which spin from 16's to 30's is another matter. There is undoubtedly an increasing demand for long staple cotton by the Indian mills which would find it to their interest to obtain it at their doors rather than have to import it. India can, and I wish to emphasise the word *can*, India can grow enough of 30's and 40's cottons for her present mill requirements, but will the premium paid be sufficient to compensate the grower for the loss in outturn and ginning percentage which he is almost bound to suffer? To quote an example, the grower of the unimproved *Gaorani* must receive a premium of about Rs. 50 a candy if it is to be worth while growing in preference to the shorter staple *Neglectums*. Sind is capable of growing long staple cotton of the Egyptian type but as far as can be seen at present it will not pay the grower unless it fetches a much higher price than is likely to be paid for it. It need not be thought that India cannot and does not produce cottons capable of spinning high counts, for it has been found at the Technological Laboratory that several Indian cottons when combed are suited for the high counts for which much American and Egyptian cotton is imported. Trials are still in progress and the results when available may show that several of the existing improved varieties of Indian cottons are capable of taking the place of all but the very finest of Egyptians. Nor is it only a question of forecasting the needs of Indian mills and of prophesying the lines on which the great Indian textile industry will develop. The relative prices for long and short stapled cottons depend very largely on the export demand for the latter. How far can we depend on the demand of foreign countries for short staple cotton in future?

The subject then on which Directors of Agriculture and those responsible for policy would like to have your views may be summarised as follows:—

- (1) India is capable of growing its own present mill requirements of long staple cotton but will it pay the grower in every case?
- (2) If staple cotton replaces the short staple varieties at present grown, what effect will that have on the price of the two commodities?

These are the two big problems to be considered. I am aware that the Committee has already considered them with reference to the type of cotton that should be grown in Sind and the verdict arrived at was that the Agricultural Department should recommend the varieties which give the highest return to the grower. I am sure the same decision will be arrived at, but it is necessary to take a long-sighted view because if short staple cotton becomes scarce, it may pay the grower better than the longer-stapled varieties and the effect of placing on to the world's

markets, say, an extra three million bales of cotton which can be used in place of Middling American, requires careful consideration.

Another question for discussion is that of publicity and propaganda by the Committee. At the last meeting the Committee adopted a report of the Local Sub-Committee one item of which was that Directors of Agriculture should be asked to submit proposals for the extension of publicity and propaganda with regard to the Committee's work in the Provinces and to indicate in what manner and to what extent the assistance of the Committee could be most profitably utilised in such work. Replies have been received from all Directors of Agriculture and the Committee will have to decide what action should be taken on them.

Another very important subject for discussion is the policy which the Committee wishes to be followed at the Indore Institute of Plant Industry. It will be remembered that this subject also came up at the last meeting but discussion was postponed to enable the new Director—Mr. Jackson—to become acquainted with the work and to give the Committee an opportunity of hearing his views on the subject.

One of our members has introduced into the Central Provinces Legislative Council a Bill for the purpose of organising open regulated cotton markets in the Central Provinces on the lines of those in Berar. The Committee has always given its support to every effort made to supply the grower of cotton with a market in the management of which he has some say, and I am sure you will not withhold your support in this instance.

Last year, you sanctioned funds to permit of three investigations being carried out into the effect of pools of ginning and pressing factories on the price paid to the grower for his produce. The Local Governments of the Central Provinces, Bombay and Ajmer-Merwara agreed to carry out these enquiries and reports have now been received from them and are before you for decision what action should be recommended.

The usual reports of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee, the Technological Research Sub-Committee and the Standing Finance Sub-Committee are included on the agenda, as well as a summary of the Proceedings of the Local Sub-Committee which has dealt with all matters unconnected with finance since the last meeting of the Committee. The Budget prepared by the Standing Finance Sub-Committee is liable to amendment as a result of your decisions on the Reports of the Agricultural and the Technological Research Sub-Committees. The report of the Standing Finance Sub-Committee shows you the action taken by it since the last meeting.

Gentlemen, I shall not keep you any longer from the work before you. The Technological Research and Agricultural Research Sub-Committees have already met and we shall therefore carry right on with the work of the Committee.

SUBJECT 2.—Confirmation of Minutes.

The Minutes of the 23rd meeting were confirmed.

SUBJECT 3.—Retirement of members by rotation.

The Secretary's note* was recorded.

SUBJECT 4.—Appointment of Vice-President and Sub-Committees.**

Mr. Burt proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Saklatvala and carried unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 1.—“That Sir Joseph A. Kay be appointed Vice-President of the Committee for the year 1932-33.”

Standing Finance Sub-Committee.

Mr. Jenkins proposed :—

RESOLUTION 2.—“That the following members be appointed to form the Standing Finance Sub-Committee for the financial year 1932-33 :—

Sir Joseph A. Kay (Vice-President),
 Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya (ex-officio),
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik.
 Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande,
 Mr. D. McCallum,
 Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta.”

This was seconded by Mr. Plymen and carried unanimously.

Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Sub-Committee.

Mr. Milne moved—

RESOLUTION 3.—“That the following members be appointed to form the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Sub-Committee :—

Sir Joseph A. Kay (Vice-President),
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Mr. D. McCallum,

* Appendix I. (Page 46).

** Appendix II. (Page 46).

Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,
 Mr. W. Roberts,
 Mr. H. B. Moore,
 Mr. J. Tinker,
 Mr. Y. G. Deshpande,
 Sardar Sampuran Singh."

This was seconded by Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik and carried unanimously.

Local Sub-Committee.

The Vice-President then proposed :—

RESOLUTION 4.—"That the following members be appointed to compose the Local Sub-Committee :—

Sir Joseph A. Kay (Vice-President),
 Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik,
 Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande,
 Mr. D. McCallum,
 Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta."

This was seconded by Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta and carried unanimously.

Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.

The President moved :—

RESOLUTION 5.—"That the following members be appointed to form the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee :—

- I. Ex-officio—Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,
- II. The Vice-President—Sir Joseph A. Kay,
- III. The Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore—Mr. F. K. Jackson,

- IV. Co-operative representative—Sardar Sampuran Singh,
- V. Cotton growers' representative—Mr. W. Roberts,
- VI. Cotton Trade representative—Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
- VII. Four Agricultural Officers—Mr. T. F. Main,
 Mr. F. J. Plymen,
 Mr. D. Milne,
 Mr. V. Ramanatha Iyer,
- VIII. Additional members— Mr. B. C. Burt,
 Dr. L. Coleman,
 Dr. W. Burns,
 Mr. D. N. Mahta,
 Mr. Ram Frasad,
 Mr. H. H. Pandya,
 Mr. W. J. Jenkins,
 Mr. P. B. Richards,
 Mr. B. A. Collins,
 Mr. D. G. Munro,
 Mr. C. V. Sane,
- IX. Co-opted member—Sucessor to Mr. Trevor Trought,
- X. The Secretary."

This was seconded by the Vice-President and carried unanimously.

Technological Research Sub-Committee.

The President then moved :—

RESOLUTION 6.—"That the following members form the Technological Research Sub-Committee :—

The President,	} ex-officio.
The Vice-President,	

Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,

Mr. B. C. Burt,

Mr. D. Milne,

Mr. T. F. Main,

Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,

Mr. Y. G. Deshpande,

Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal.

The Bombay Millowners' Association, the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and the East India Cotton Association will be asked to nominate two representatives each."

This was seconded by the Vice-President and carried unanimously.

Research Students Selection Sub-Committee.

The President then proposed :—

RESOLUTION 7.—"That the Research Students Selection Sub-Committee be composed of the following members :—

The President,

The Vice-President,

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,

Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,

Mr. B. C. Burt,

Dr. W. Burns,

Mr. P. B. Richards,

Mr. D. Milne,

Mr. F. J. Plymen,

Dr. L. C. Coleman,

Mr. H. H. Pandya,

Mr. T. F. Main,

Mr. W. J. Jenkins,

Mr. C. V. Sane,

Mr. F. K. Jackson,

Dr. Nazir Ahmad."

This was seconded by the Vice-President and carried unanimously.

Sub-Committee on Malpractices.

The President then moved.—

RESOLUTION 8.—"That the Sub-Committee on Malpractices consist of the following members :—

The Vice-President,

Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,

Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,

Mr. D. McCallum,

Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,

Mr. T. F. Main,

Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik,

with power to co-opt."

This was seconded by Major D. Vanrenen and carried unanimously.

SUBJECT. 5.—Cotton Transport Act—Madras.

The Secretary's note* was recorded.

SUBJECT 6.—Cotton Transport Act—Indore—Railway Stations
within the protected area.

The Secretary's note** was recorded.

SUBJECT 7.—Cotton Policy in Gujarat.

The Secretary's note and letter† from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat, were considered.

After some discussion the proposals of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat, for testing the 1027 and 1-A varieties of cotton were amended as follows :—

"The number of replications to be carried out at each site should be five instead of two, and the cotton from each site only should be mixed for testing at the Technological Laboratory instead of the cotton from all the sites in a Taluka as was suggested."

SUBJECT 8.—Central Provinces Cotton Market Bill.

The Secretary's note and Draft Bill*** were considered.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. Kolhe and seconded by Mr. Collins was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 9.—"The Central Cotton Committee approves in principle of the draft bill which has been introduced by a private member into the Central Provinces Legislative Council for supplying the Central Provinces with organised cotton markets on the lines of those in Berar."

* Appendix III (Page 49).

** Appendix IV (Page 50).

† Appendix V. (Page 51).

*** Appendix VI. (Page 1)

SUBJECT 9.—Madras Cotton Control Bill.

The Secretary's note* was considered.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Vonesch and seconded by Mr. Burt, was passed :—

RESOLUTION 10.—"The Central Cotton Committee approves of the action taken by the Local Sub-Committee in recommending to the Madras Government less drastic legislation under the Madras Cotton Control Bill provided that the scope of the Bill is restricted to the growing of *Pulichai* cotton in the Tinnevely area."

Summary of discussion.

Several of the growers' representatives were opposed to the Committee interfering with the variety of cotton that the cultivators should grow, but it was pointed out that *Pulichai* was a cotton foreign to the Tinnevely District and was grown merely for the sake of adulteration. The effect on the general level of prices for Tinnevely cotton, if no check were put on the growth of *Pulichai*, would be disastrous to the cotton growers of the whole tract. The principle of the Bill was approved provided legislation was confined to dealing with *Pulichai* cotton only.

SUBJECT 10.—Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act— Progress made in Indian States.

The Secretary's note** was recorded.

SUBJECT 11.—Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Pools—†Report of the Local Sub-Committee on the reports of investigations carried out in the Central Provinces, Ajmer-Merwara and Bombay Presidency.

Sir Joseph Kay proposed and Mr. D. N. Mahta seconded the following resolution which was passed by a majority :—

RESOLUTION 11.—"That the Report of the Local Sub-Committee on Pools of cotton ginning and pressing factories be adopted."

Summary of discussion.

The growers' representatives on the Committee considered that the recommendation of the Local Sub-Committee on the reports of Local Governments on the effect of pools on the price paid to the grower for his cotton did not go far enough and desired the Committee to urge Local Governments to undertake legislation to put a stop to this evil by the fixation of maximum prices. Other members recommended that the Committee should again take up the question of the licensing of gins

* Appendix VII (Page 58).

** Appendix VIII. (Page 60).

† Appendix IX. (Page 61).

and presses and so give power to the authorities to put a stop to all such evils and malpractices. Several members were of opinion that complete reliance could not be placed on the figures in the report as the investigators had to rely on the statements of interested parties. Others maintained that the formation of pools was the outcome of the present day tendency for rationalisation so as to reduce costs and if pools were prohibited, the stronger concerns would soon obtain a monopoly and prices would go up considerably.

SUBJECT 12.—Establishment of Markets under the Hyderabad Agricultural Markets Act.

The Secretary's note@ was recorded.

SUBJECT 13.—Proposed United Provinces Entomological Extension Scheme.

This subject was considered under the Report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee (Subject 19).

SUBJECT 14.—Summary of Proceedings of the Local Sub-Committee.

The Secretary's note* was approved.

**SUBJECT 15.—Publicity and Propaganda work by the Committee-
Report of the Local Sub-Committee on replies received
from Provincial Directors of Agriculture.**

The Report** of the Local Sub-Committee was considered.

Sir Joseph Kay proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik and carried unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 12.—“That the Report of the Local Sub-Committee on the replies received from Provincial Directors of Agriculture on Publicity and Propaganda be adopted.”

Summary of discussion.

All speakers on this subject stressed the need for the Committee undertaking publicity and propaganda and approved of the recommendation of the Local Sub-Committee that this could best be done by attaching to the Committee's staff a professional journalist or publicity expert who, in consultation with the provincial authorities, would devise schemes to keep the grower, the trade and the general public informed of the Committee's work and aims as well as to encourage the growers to adopt into general practice the results of the Committee's Research Schemes.

@ Appendix X. (Page 62).

* Appendix XI (Page 63).

** Appendix XII (Page 64).

**SUBJECT 16.—Review of the Committee's work and Research
Policy—Opinions received on the pamphlet "Cotton
Improvement in India."**

[The discussion on this subject is given in *extenso*—Secretary, I. C. C. C.].

The Vice-President said: "With your permission, Sir, I would like to speak at the opening of the discussion on our "past work and future policy" because I think if we deal first with the criticisms which we have received on our past several years' efforts it will facilitate matters when we come to formulate our policy for the future, and as Vice-President of the Committee—and, perhaps, one of its oldest members—it falls to my lot to defend the policy which we have worked, with, I submit, some great measure of success—and to explain, in so far as I can, the reasons why, in one or two cases, we have not been able to achieve results such as all of us would desire.

Let me in the first place say that, as most of you know, it was decided at the last meeting to print and distribute to all interested the able "Note" prepared by the Secretary so that we might have the views of any individual or association interested in the improvement of Indian cotton to help us in the light of their experience and our own to put our future policy on as sound a basis as possible. Nearly 2,500 copies of this pamphlet were distributed and so far only some ten replies have been received. I am sure it must be a source of disappointment to members, as it is to me, that so little apparent interest is taken in our work, but maybe the fault, to some extent, is our own owing to our not having kept the public better informed of our doings: but on this I shall have more to say when we come to discuss publicity and propaganda.

Now Sir, we can, I think, consider very fair on the whole the criticisms we have received and we have certainly received helpful suggestions for the future, which I leave for discussion by members later, and it is gratifying to find that the work of our Scientists and Agricultural Officers is appreciated for anyone who has taken any interest in cotton work during the past five years must admit that a very great deal of scientific knowledge has been acquired, and this must be of tremendous value to those workers who have to deal with the problems of the future.

You will see, Sir, from the replies received that mention is made of the disappointment in some quarters that little or no progress has been made in the improvement of certain styles of Indian cotton, in fact, it is mentioned that actual deterioration has taken place. I have no doubt those statements will be dealt with by the Agricultural Officers concerned in the particular districts, but in case any wrong impression may be created, I want to say that Indian cotton are finding a better appreciation in the world's markets than they have ever done before and one has only to go back a few years to find that their reputation was at a low ebb, whilst we are now getting indications that countries will and

can trade in our cotton with more confidence. Let me give you instances of how some of the world's experts regard Indian cottons to-day :

In an Annual Review on the world's cotton situation in 1929 Professor J. A. Todd said "Coming now to the lowest grade, short cotton of less than an inch staple, the main sources of supply are of course India and China. With regard to India it is very satisfactory to note that the advance made in the development of supplies of inch staple cotton has also extended to the shorter staple varieties, all of which have been subjected to a steady process of improvement by seed selection and the introduction of new varieties, so that there is now very little left of the old really short staple varieties below half an inch in staple."

In his address at Houston, Texas, on January 27th, 1931, Mr. W. L. Clayton remarked "On the other hand, India, our chief competitor, shows some improvement in yield and a great improvement in quality."

Mr. A. B. Cox, Director, Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas in his article entitled "Methods for the improvement of the quality of East Indian Cotton" said "Until recent years, the gradual deterioration in the quality of Indian cotton has been a condition baffling all attempts at correction. The improvement of quality since the World War has been equally phenomenal."

In an Annual Review on the world's cotton situation in 1931 Professor J. A. Todd stated "Thus on the low side the Indian crop, once regarded as far below American in quality, has been so greatly improved in the last 20 years that the best of it is now better than a large part of the American crop. India now produces at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ million bales (or nearly one-third of her total crop) which is of $\frac{7}{8}$ " staple and above, whereas in 1929 America produced nearly 3 million bales (or 20 per cent of her crop) which was below $\frac{7}{8}$ ". And this improvement of the Indian crop is going on steadily."

I want next to deal briefly with the progress made in regard to the size of the crop.

The average crop in the first five years of this century was 3,903,000 bales grown in an area of 18 million acres ; the average for the next five years was 4,414,000 bales obtained from $21\frac{1}{2}$ million acres ; from 1911 to 1916 the average was 4,816,000 bales from $22\frac{1}{4}$ million acres ; from 1916 to 1921 the average was 4,752,000 bales from $22\frac{1}{2}$ million acres ; from 1921 to 1926 the average was 6,324,000 bales from $23\frac{3}{4}$ million acres. The 1926-31 average was 6,340,000 bales from $25\frac{1}{4}$ million acres. In other words there has been an average increase during the last ten years of a little over $1\frac{1}{2}$ million bales from an increased area of $2\frac{3}{4}$ million acres. Even more significant is the average yield of lint per acre during the decade. The average for the five years ending 1921 was 84 lbs. per acre while the yield for the five years ending 1931 averaged 100 lbs. The figures of yield given above are the Commercial Crop and have been,

worked out by adding together the exports, the mill consumption and the village consumption. These figures appear to me to prove quite conclusively that the Indian grower is obtaining higher yields either from improved seed, or by adopting better methods of agriculture.

On the legislative side of our work it is pleasing to see that the Cotton Transport Act and the Bombay Marketing Bill have met with general approval, but the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act comes in for severe criticism from the Trade, which is a little surprising, as the Trade asked for the legislation and it was intended that the Trade should work it. This Act was passed by the Legislative Assembly at the request of this Committee for the purpose of marking bales so that the many abuses which up to that time were so prevalent in Indian cotton could be traced back to their perpetrators. One item in the terms of reference given to the Indian Cotton Committee in 1917 read "and by the prevention of the harmful practices of adulteration and damping which have done so much in the past to lower the reputation of Indian cotton." The two opening sentences of paragraph 214 of the Report of the same Committee contain the following ominous words :—

"The condition in which Indian cotton is placed on the market as the result of the practices of adulteration, mixing and damping has made it a by-word in certain markets almost throughout the history of the British connection with India. The question of restoring its reputation by the prevention of these malpractices is one to which we have given the most serious consideration."

None will disagree with me when I say that adulteration and mixing were rampant in India before the passing of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act and the Cotton Transport Act, the one being complementary to the other. This is easily proved by the fact that in 1925 we had a good number of complaints from the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and also the Bremen Cotton Exchange pointing out to us the serious complaints they were receiving from several countries about the great number of badly packed and mixed bales they were receiving, and they referred to the large quantity of broken seed, shells, string and jute which were contained in these bales. What has the Act done to improve the way in which Indian cotton comes on the world's markets? Except for a few stray cases of bales having cut seed and oil stains, not one case of false packing has been reported to the Committee from abroad since the marking of bales was made compulsory. Surely this in itself is sufficient justification for the passing of the Act. I have heard many severe strictures on the Act from members of the trade who feel it a handicap. When the Bill was before the Legislative Assembly in 1924, the Hon'ble Sir Charles Innes in introducing it, said : "It may be said that this is just the sort of abuse which the trade may be left to deal with by themselves. On that point the Indian Cotton Committee definitely reported that the trade unaided could not deal with the abuse. They further said that legislation should be undertaken

to enable the trade to deal with these malpractices and abuses. They made various suggestions as to the restrictions which should be put on Cotton Gineries and Cotton Presses, and they made a further proposal that those restrictions should be made effective by a system of licensing of Gineries and Presses in India." It was control of the trade by the trade through the trade. If, as has been stated, the Act is not working satisfactorily, it can only be the trade which is at fault. The number of cases reported of incorrectly marked bales, or of failure to mark bales, has been so few recently that the Committee can only surmise that the Act has been working smoothly. A circular letter issued to all Trade Associations in India this year regarding the marking of bales elicited practically nothing but satisfactory replies. In addition to showing the changes which have taken place, it is interesting to notice that at the International Cotton Congress held in Paris this year Mr. Joseph Wild of England made the following statement:—"I think as we have no other definite complaints to make against Indian cotton, it would be a suitable opportunity for us to express to the Indian Central Cotton Committee and to the Indian Government our satisfaction with the measures that are being taken to deal with the various problems in the production of raw cotton and the handling thereof. I think a resolution to this effect should be drawn up, and submitted to this Congress." This was agreed to.

I agree that the Act should be tightened up, but to repeal it, as has been suggested, will be the greatest blow to all concerned with the cotton industry in India. One method of tightening up this piece of legislation is to obtain greater control over all Gineries and Presses by a system of licensing which this Committee suggested in the first place to the Government of India. If the Indian Central Cotton Committee takes this matter up with the Government of India, will the trade give its full support to enable the necessary legislation to be carried through the Assembly? Presumably they will, for, if, as has been asserted, the Act is not working satisfactorily, they will want greater control, for I cannot believe that they wish to revert to the conditions of ten years ago. It must be borne in mind that the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act cannot be divorced from the Cotton Transport Act, as the one is essential to the other.

I think, Sir, that deals with the many points raised in the replies we received on our past work and I leave it to you, gentlemen, now to discuss matters such as "Should long staple cotton be grown in a short staple area" and the other suggestions which have been made, so that we may, so far as is possible, confine our efforts to the right direction."

Mr. Saklatvala said he was speaking in a dual capacity, first as a member of the Indian Central Cotton Committee who had represented the Bombay Millowners' Association from 1923, and secondly as a consumer. From the various criticisms that had been received it was clear to him that people put too much stress on the fact that the quality of cotton

varied considerably during different seasons, but this did not only pertain to Indian cotton, for every one knew that the American crop was not what it used to be. In India it was possible that the crop in a particular district had deteriorated, but no one should jump to the conclusion that because of this the work of the Committee was useless. This was generalising to a degree, and was unfair to the Committee. The note from the Millowners' Association referred to the deterioration that had taken place in the Central Provinces and Berar cottons and it was possible here to find a clue to this deterioration. It was not the Agricultural Department and the Central Cotton Committee who were to blame, but the middlemen who were responsible by reason of the malpractices which they indulged in. The Committee had been blamed for recommending the passing of legislation to control the trade and now were also being blamed for not recommending further legislation. He wished to say also that the consumers had not played their part to the extent they should have. The Committee had always tried to encourage the growing of better varieties, but it could not be said that the mill-owners had helped them in any way. In his opinion the consumers should co-operate and give a good premium for improved varieties. It was not the work of the Central Cotton Committee that required looking into, but the question of the marketing of the crop. He suggested that critics should come forward with definite suggestions and if they were

price depended on the loss percentage of the cotton. He considered that side by side with its scientific work, the Committee should take in hand this aspect of the question and advise the growers as to the best time to pick, etc. The Committee might also consider an investigation into the best methods of storing *kapas*. The grower was ignorant and illiterate and thought the more dirt he got into his cotton the more money he would make. This kind of work would be appreciated greatly by the trade and by the consumers. He said he would like to go a step further and compel ginners to instal openers for cleaning *kapas*. This would improve the quality of Indian cotton immensely. At present many varieties fetched very low prices because of their leafiness and the consumer would pay relatively much higher prices for less leafy cottons. If *Umri* cotton could show 3-4 per cent less loss it would fetch much more than a proportionately higher price.

Mr. Plymen prefixed his remarks by reading that part of the President's opening address which dealt with the differentiation between the work of the Committee and that of the Agricultural Department. He said that the principle seemed to be accepted that it was the work of the Agricultural Department to develop a cotton policy. A policy should be based on a long-sighted view of the trade and he thought the Committee was in a much better position in that respect than to allow the Agricultural Departments to lay down a policy for themselves. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce had stated in their note that certain varieties of cotton had deteriorated. He wished to know how they had deteriorated—in quality, yield or staple. In the Central Provinces and Berar there was an area of nearly 6,000,000 acres under cotton with an outturn of roughly 1,000,000 bales. He asked how much of this area should be put under *Verum*, *Roseum* and ordinary *Oomras*. If they were guided by the Central Cotton Committee it would be possible to control the purity by seed distribution schemes. If they continued with *Verum* they might reach a peak where its relative price would fall. Should the Agricultural Department encourage *Verum* cotton up to half the available area or in what proportion should it be distributed? The question of improved varieties he would leave to Mr. Mahta who would describe the cottons under development at the present moment. Another point which struck him was, did the trade want *Bani*? Did the Committee think that the Department should go on with it? One suggestion was to the effect that the Committee should pay more attention to *wilt* and *root-rot*. A considerable amount of mortality took place this year amongst young seedlings and it was difficult to say what the reason was, but it was probably due to flooding. Regarding the complaints about samples of *Verum* cotton, he said the Department had means of tracing bad lots back by means of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act. If the Department were to receive complaints they would be looked into. Last year one such complaint had been received and on investigation it was found that the so-called *Verum* was not *Verum* cotton at all. The Agricultural Department was in a

definite position to give help of this nature if complaints regarding cotton were received. By the combined effort of the trade and the Agricultural Department they would be in a position to find out those persons who were passing off inferior cottons as *Verum*. He thought it might be possible to stimulate the grower by means of prize schemes and this he had mentioned in his note. At the present moment they were giving prizes for good yield and good samples and if the Committee were anxious to encourage cleaner picking, the offer of a few prizes would be of considerable assistance.

Mr. Jenkins said he felt that a considerable number of the complaints received from various commercial bodies regarding the deterioration of various Indian cottons in the past few years might be discounted for different reasons. Improved varieties of cotton, like race horses, were subject to temporary loss of form due to various causes but this was no adequate reason why they should be condemned as failures after a short period of trial. He felt sure that, if the trade decided to follow up a particular improved variety of cotton, they would get good returns for their support in the long run. He was certain that it was the general consensus of opinion that the work of the Central Cotton Committee had made a tremendous difference to cotton production in all parts of India and that, if there had been no Committee, progress would have been very slow and, in these times of financial stringency, the future of cotton production in India would have been very black indeed. He was particularly interested in the question of stapled cottons and their future extension in India as under the Lloyd Barrage and canal systems in Sind, he hoped to be able to increase the cultivation of long stapled cottons which would bring increased profits to the growers and which would meet trade demands. In this connection, he wished to correct a common misapprehension that existed to the effect that large blocks of new and hitherto uncultivated land would be available for development after the opening of the Lloyd Barrage. It was true that large areas of new land would be available for cultivation then but these areas were, for the most part, interspersed with land already under cultivation so that the proposals put forward for segregating new lands for long stapled cotton cultivation could not be easily put into effect. Regarding the growth of stapled cottons in short stapled areas, this problem was simplified in Sind by the preference of the growers themselves in certain compact tracts for long stapled varieties of cotton. He thought that, in time, it would be possible to confine the Jamrao canal tracts to long stapled cotton cultivation although, in this connection, it might be found necessary to utilise the provisions of the Cotton Transport Act to protect definite areas. He would like to have the Committee's view on what constitutes a "long stapled" cotton. Was this term applicable to cottons with a staple length of from $\frac{3}{4}$ -1" or to cottons above 1" in staple only? With regard to the extension of long stapled cottons in Sind, it must also be remembered that, so far as experimental work had gone, the yield per acre had been found to be in inverse ratio to the staple

length of the varieties which had been tested. With regard to the future research programme of the Committee, he felt that work should be concentrated on such items of research work as gave the best promise of resulting in practical results within the shortest possible period of time. In this connection, he laid special stress on any research work designed to increase cotton yields per acre. He, accordingly, advocated that preference should be given to scheme of "short term" research as opposed to "long term" research. He agreed fully with everything said by Mr. Collins in his note on the importance of research work into the improvement of cotton agronomy as much greater advantage would accrue to the cotton growers by a general adoption of better methods of cotton cultivation than by the introduction of new varieties or by the extension of measures against cotton pests and diseases. Finally he expressed the opinion that if more publicity had been given to the work of the Committee in the past, many of the opinions now received would have been couched in different language and he felt sure that if the Committee now embarked on a definite policy of propaganda and publicity similar opinion called for in five years' time would differ considerably from the one now under consideration with regard to the results of the policy and work of the Committee.

Mr. Vonesch said the Committee had received very few criticisms and this was because its work was not generally known. It was impossible to lay down one policy for the whole of India because of India's vast extent. What put a limitation on the Committee's schemes was the lack of finance, but this could be remedied by raising the taxes. The lack of finance prevented the Committee starting schemes which would help the grower directly. Whether the efforts of the Central Cotton Committee should be devoted to long or short staple cottons was, he considered, partly solved by the climatic conditions of the country. It was his opinion that long staple cottons would not be generally grown. He thought it would be a mistake for the Committee to forget that India had a monopoly of short staple cottons and the moment India went into the long staple field it would compete with America and there would be a general decline in price which was determined by the price of the export crop. In reply to Mr. Jenkins, he said long staple cotton was anything over 7/8".

Dr. Burns said Mr. Jenkins had drawn an analogy between improved cottons and a race horse and he would also follow suit with another one. Recently on the G. I. P. Railway the arch of a bridge gave way. The Engineers put two iron girders across the breach and the traffic went on while the arch was being rebuilt. The Committee's investigations into *wilt* might be compared to this. The immediate action was to get wilt-resistant strains, but the work should not rest there. It should be carried on until all it was possible to find out about the disease was discovered. In this case the Committee had not rested there for it had financed a scheme to study this problem. Most cotton problems had to be dealt with like this. There was for example, the question of yield.

The immediate action necessary was the production of high yielding varieties, but the whole question of what factor determined yield and how these could be influenced required investigation, and this would take time. Similarly the question of leafiness in cotton had been mentioned in the debate. The immediate remedy was clean picking, but the ultimate solution was probably one for the plant breeder, in producing a type of cotton in which the bracteoles did not get mixed up with the lint. The Indian Central Cotton Committee should therefore concern itself with fundamental investigations as well as finding immediate remedies.

Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik said he was not capable of passing any remarks on the opinions of the trade associations. He agreed with Messrs. Jenkins and Collins that in the past sufficient time and attention had not been devoted by the Committee to the question of improving yields. The Vice-President had stated that there had been a big increase in yield over the last thirty years. He was not prepared to say that that increase was due to improvements by the Agricultural Departments. He did not think it required any special endeavour because when cotton growing paid the growers they worked harder to get better yields. He wished to suggest to the Departments of Agriculture that they should devote more time to increasing the yields of the cultivators' crops. India was much behind in the matter of yield compared with other countries. He considered it was in the interests of the cultivators that they should take up the cultivation of long staple cottons, but the spinners must pay a sufficient premium. The growers of 1927 were not getting a proper price and he considered the trade should pay this. The aim of the Indian Central Cotton Committee was to benefit the grower and therefore whatever kind of cotton the grower took up the Committee should see that he was fully compensated. He considered that the Indian mills should be self-contained and it was his duty of the Committee to push those qualities which were now being imported, with this condition that the growers should get a proper premium. As a grower his only request was that the Committee should carry out experiments for yield and staple and should recommend those varieties which would benefit the growers most. Regarding complaints against the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, it had been maintained by everybody that the quality of cotton must be preserved and all the research that had been carried out would bear no fruit if the Act was repealed as was suggested in certain of the notes received. On the whole the Committee had done satisfactory work although most of the research schemes had yet to bear fruit.

Mr. Burt said he thought the Committee was under a sense of obligation to those associations and individuals who had taken the trouble to reply to the Committee's request. There was a distinct contrast, he said, between these replies and those received by the Agricultural Departments ten years ago, because they showed an appreciation of our

work and contained some constructive criticisms for the future. When the Committee first received its funds it had to adopt a cautious policy and feel its way. At that time they were in a difficult position because they were a central body created just when provincialism was somewhat exaggerated and everyone suspicious of central direction and control. The Central Cotton Committee had definitely made up its mind not to try to direct policy but merely to give advice. There was a feeling at first amongst the provinces that, because it had funds, everything to do with cotton should be financed by the Committee and this had to be fought. Those dangers had now passed and he thought a broader policy was now permissible. The replies received indicated that on the whole the Committee should follow its past policy, viz., that it should tackle problems of more than provincial importance and that the primary responsibility rested with the provinces. A recent amplification of the Committee's policy was that it should exploit the result of successful research. This would prove very fruitful and he was very glad to see that two of the commercial bodies replying supported the United Provinces Pink Boll-worm scheme. There was one sentence in the reply of the Bombay Millowners' Association which, he considered, required comment. They had stated that as the Committee had been in existence for eight years, more results should have been shown. If they had only paused to consider the length of time required for breeding work, they would have seen that eight years was far too short a period to get results. It was a matter of simple arithmetic. A breeding scheme started in 1924 would reach its eighth generation of the crop next year and this was the earliest period within which results could be expected. Where results had been obtained before this period, the Committee had reaped the benefit of previous work by the Agricultural Departments. He thought it was as well that people, and the Committee, should recognise frankly that if an improved cotton was obtained in eight years they were very lucky. Mr. Saklatvala had raised the question of cleaner picking. This had been before the Committee on a previous occasion and they had persuaded the East India Cotton Association to widen the "on" allowances. There were two methods of attacking the problem first by improving the marketing organisation, and secondly, by plant-breeding methods. Clean picking was entirely a matter of price. Two factors came into play. First, where the yield of the crop was low, for example in the Northern and Kumbha areas, half or even the whole crop was allowed to mature before it was harvested and much of it had to be collected from the ground. Where yields were high, as in the Punjab, more frequent pickings were carried out. The second factor was the habits of the people. In certain parts the cotton was picked early in the morning before the dew was off the plant and the cotton came away quite clean. In other parts the pickers waited till about noon when the bracts were brittle and came off with the cotton. The solution in different parts of the country was not the same. He wanted to join issue with Mr. Vonesch regarding his statement that

cotton $\frac{3}{8}$ " and over was long staple cotton. This was the case only in Bombay. In Liverpool the standard was $1\frac{1}{8}$ ". He thought the word medium staple should be used for cottons of intermediate staple. Several of the replies received showed the danger of over-saturation of the market with certain kinds of cotton. Very frequently agricultural officers thought that any increase in length of staple was an advantage, but this was not the case and small increases of length in short stapled cottons might only lead to further congestion in a crowded market. He considered that the Committee should again investigate this matter with the help of the trade so as to get an idea where the different cottons went and also what changes in demand had taken place and were likely to take place within the next few years. In order to take a long view the question of the trend of demand must be studied. India had at present a monopoly of $\frac{3}{8}$ " cotton but was also largely dependent on one consumer. It was necessary to find out to what extent foreign consumers were likely to continue their demand for these short staple styles. The Committee had heard a great deal about long-range and short-range research. These phrases were coined not by a research worker but by an administrator and there was no real distinction between the two types. The real test in applied science was the aim of the work. The Committee had decided at an early stage that it would not take up research which would prove of academic interest only, but that all its schemes should have the economic end clearly in view. Though a particular problem might be difficult and likely to take a long time that was no reason why the Committee should fight shy of it. Such a course would be ill-advised. The question should be asked "Was this job worth doing?" and if the answer was in the affirmative the task should be pursued with determination.

Mr. Boyagis said he made no apology for representing that much maligned body—the trader—who was considered the villain of the piece for mixing different kinds of cotton. The question of mixing different kinds of cottons depended entirely on the price paid. The Indian mills were blamed for not paying a sufficient price for improved cotton, but many other factors had to be taken into consideration. He agreed with Mr. Burt that cottons between $\frac{3}{8}$ " and 1" should be called 'medium', and that the cotton produced in other countries would compete with those medium staple qualities. He agreed with Mr. Plymen that the Committee's policy should be framed in consultation with the consumer, and the Committee should base its policy on the replies received. He was dead against growing long staple cotton in short staple areas. He thought sufficient long staple cotton could be grown to satisfy Indian mill requirements if the Committee were to spend time in improving the quality of *Kumtias* and the qualities and quantities of the other types of cotton grown in Southern India. This would give the Committee ample work for a long time to come. There was no doubt that India could grow long staple cotton and with a crop of six million bales he thought India should be able to produce enough staple cotton for her own mills. In long staple cotton regions cottons of 40s to 80s

could be grown but only enough should be produced to satisfy her own mill requirements. He was very perturbed to read in the note that it was meant to replace the whole of Berar *Oomras* with *Verum* cotton. Never had he seen a glut of short staple cotton and at the present moment there was a distinct dearth of it. Regarding the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, there seemed to be an idea amongst the public that the trade was against the Act as it was against their interests. He believed that the Cotton Transport Act could be used to prevent malpractices at the source, whereas all the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act was trying to do was to prevent them at the end. What the trade said was that the Act should be repealed if it could not be made to work satisfactorily. It should be tightened up and administered at its source by a system of licensing. In his experience many factories did not mark at all and it was asking too much of the trade to report all cases of faulty marking. Hyderabad *Gaorani* cotton on the whole had deteriorated very considerably in spinning quality during recent years. This used to be the best spinning cotton in India and he thought the Committee would do a wonderful piece of work if it was instrumental in bringing back its spinning qualities.

Mr. Haridas Madhobdas said he was speaking in his personal capacity. As far as cotton improvement was concerned he would like the Committee to concentrate on those areas only where long staple cottons were grown and to leave the short staple cotton alone so far as length of the staple was concerned. There was a distinct market for short staple and there was a big demand for the three million bales exported. If long staple cotton took the place of short staple, it would increase the quantity in the world's market and there would be a drop in price. Regarding legislative measures he was in entire sympathy with and approved of the Cotton Transport Act because it was helping to stop malpractices at the start and he considered it should be extended. In his opinion the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act was neither advantageous to the trade nor to the grower, and if malpractices were sought to be stopped other means should be adopted but not by a system of marking. When a bale was marked with the year in which it was pressed that in itself was sufficient to condemn it.

Mr. Collins said he was very much impressed with the Vice-President's speech and he thought the views of world authorities on the improvement that had taken place in Indian cotton should be taken to heart by the critics in this country, and he suggested that the speech should receive the widest publicity in India. He did not think the Committee had any cause for heart-searching as to whether it had done and was doing any good. He would like to endorse what Mr. Jenkins had said, viz., that the mere existence of the Committee had done a lot of good to Indian cotton. The mere fact of bringing together under the same roof members of the trade and the experts justified the existence of the Committee. Regarding the reported deterioration of Hyderabad cotton, it would be

seen that the Millowners' Association had qualified their remarks by saying that they referred to that portion of the crop which found its way to Bombay. He would like to ask Mr. Saklatvala if he had found any deterioration.

Mr. Saklatvala stated that there was no marked deterioration in the *Gaorani* cottons which they had used in their mills for years past.

Mr. Collins said that Mr. Saklatvala's firm took the greater part of the *Gaorani* crop which they themselves bought on the spot, ginned and pressed and no deterioration had taken place. The reason why the Bombay Millowners considered that there had been deterioration in "*Bani*" was that mills did not buy direct. He had received one complaint from a mill in Bombay regarding the weakness of *Bani* cotton and he took the trouble to make enquiries and found that though this mill had its own press it did not buy direct but through an agent, and it was shown that this agent was deliberately mixing the cotton. Very little *Gaorani* came to Bombay and what did come was adulterated. He said he wished to make a few suggestions, firstly regarding the Cotton Markets Act. He thought the Committee should do all it could to get this Act introduced all through India. Once Market Committees were formed in the different centres they themselves would take action to see that the reputation of their markets was kept up. Market Committees could and would do a great deal to stop mixing. Secondly, the Committee should not give up its attempts to get licensing carried through. He was disappointed to see that no recommendation to this effect was contained in the report of the Local Sub-Committee on pools. He was very glad indeed to hear Mr. Boyagis say that licensing should be enforced. The three greatest defects in Indian cotton were mixing, watering and leafiness. The first two could be put a stop to immediately by licensing. They had been eminently successful in Hyderabad in stopping watering. It was very easy to know where watering was done. The Legislative Assembly and Provincial Councils were getting more and more growers on them and he thought that such legislation would have every chance of passing. He thought the Committee should try to frame a simple bill. He did not think there was any necessity to have a large corps of low paid inspectors. When complaints came in regarding malpractices action could be taken. He strongly supported the view that the licensing of gins and presses should be one of the main planks in the Committee's future policy. Regarding leafiness, it had been pointed out that one method of dealing with this defect was by plant breeding. Great differences between the different kinds of cotton could be seen in Nanded. The segments of the "*Hawri*" boll opened wide, with the result that it was very easy to pick clean. "*Bani*" had the bracteoles pressed close against the cotton and if it were bone dry the picker was compelled to take the leaf with it. He wished to lay great stress on the Committee undertaking work to ensure that the cotton could not but be picked clean, but he did not think this was enough. By introducing

this question. He wished to know whether the schemes which the Committee were financing were being paid out of revenue or from capital.

The Secretary said that up to date they were being paid out of revenue but if all the new schemes went through, the Committee would have to sell out some of its securities to finance them.

Mr. Palairat said the Committee had about Rs. 31 lakhs in reserve and he would like to be assured that it would not refuse to sanction money for any promising scheme put forward. In the event of the Committee closing down, its funds would revert to Government and he did not see why it should be afraid to spend money as it did not need its reserves. He could not support Mr. Vonesch's suggestion to increase the cotton cess.

Mr. Saklatvala said the Committee had been blamed in some quarters for spending too much money and now was being blamed for not spending enough. It should not be forgotten that the Committee had certain commitments which had to be carried out for the period for which they were sanctioned. It would be fatal if they were dropped for want of funds. *It would not be wise for the Committee to spend its balances* because it should have sufficient reserve to enable schemes to be sanctioned for seven or even ten years if necessary. Regarding Mr. Vonesch's suggestion for an increase in the cess, he would strongly advise the Committee not to do this because the moment this was suggested the trade would immediately agitate to have it reduced to one anna.

Major Vanrenen said he felt that the cotton growers were not sufficiently represented on the Committee. Until he joined the Committee he had not appreciated the value of the work being done for the growers, but now he knew that the Committee had done and was doing important work in their behalf. He was disappointed to see that the Committee had not been able to do anything to prevent the mixing of cotton. The Bombay Millowners' Association had pointed out that the Punjab-American crop had definitely deteriorated due to mixing. The Cotton Transport Act was not sufficient to prevent this because in the same area they grew more than one variety. *Mollisoni* was of particular value because it was easier to mix. He did not think this Committee would achieve much in this direction unless the licensing of gins and presses was made compulsory. All work on research would be wasted unless adulteration and mixing of cotton were put a stop to. Mills in Bombay were anxious to spin finer counts and as that was their policy the Committee should follow it. However, it was the greatest disappointment to him that the mill industry had adopted this policy as he considered it against the interests of the grower. He was very doubtful if India could produce staple cottons of long enough staple to satisfy the industry.

Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande said he had been a member of the Committee for five years and he knew what sort of help had been given to all

the Agricultural Departments in the country. He wished to say that *Verum* cotton would not have been possible without help from the Committee. He could not understand the opposition of certain speakers to *Verum* cotton. Why did they object to it? *Verum* was introduced to fight *wilt* disease and had been very successful in this, while in addition it was found to be a very desirable cotton from the spinning point of view. "*Bani*" cotton used to be grown generally over Berar and was given up because of its small yield. He thought something should be done to revive it. There was a criticism against the Committee that it had done nothing for the growers, but he did not agree. He considered that the Committee could be of considerable help to the growers by encouraging sale societies on the lines of those in Gadag and Hubli. This year the Central Provinces Agricultural Department had tried to form a pool in order to market *Verum* cotton, but owing to the extraordinary rates for *Oomras*, no premium was being paid for *Verum* and nothing was coming into the pool. Some such sale organisation would be of great assistance in getting a good premium for good cotton.

Mr. Y. G. Deshpande said he had an idealistic scheme. He recommended to the Committee a book called "Agriculture in Soviet Russia" which he suggested the Committee should take as an example. He wished to support Mr. Vonesch that the cess should be increased. What he found was that small strips of land were being cultivated by growers and on these small strips improved cotton could not be grown. He considered that funds should be provided either by the State or by the Committee to encourage the introduction and growth of improved varieties. The small cultivators did not grow *Verum* cotton, while the big growers did. Regarding the merits of *Verum* cotton, he himself was paying Rs. 50 a *candy* on *Branch* for it. Last year he used much of it in his mill. The mills in the Central Provinces wanted it and they would press the Agricultural Department to grow it. They had the growers' interests more at heart than the Trade had. Another point he wished to emphasise was that if better varieties were required the cultivator must have better implements. They were still using the ordinary wooden ploughs and though he knew that the iron plough was being taken up, he wanted it taken up on a more extensive scale. The cultivator must be taught to take to improved methods. Several methods had been suggested for improving the Indian crop, for example, licensing ginning and pressing factories, etc., but in his opinion these were half-hearted methods. It had been said that the Indian climate and soil were suitable only for short staple cotton and he was very surprised to hear that Ahmedabad was using imported cotton to spin finer counts. He was of opinion that the Millowners to promote the interests of Indian cotton growers, who were also the largest consumers, should spin such counts as could be spun out of Indian cotton alone and those consumers accustomed to use finer cloth should and would be persuaded to change their tastes and use cloth manufactured out of Indian cotton even if it were a little coarser. He was very glad to see that the Government of India had put on a duty

of half anna per lb. on imported cotton. He would like to see the duty raised to Re. 1 per lb. If the Indian mills did not spin cloth from Indian cotton, they were neglecting the Indian grower. India produced cotton sufficient to supply the whole of her population and the mills should manufacture cloth only from Indian cotton. If they were really patriotic, the first thing they would do was to refuse to import any foreign cotton.

Mr. Kotak said the Committee had devoted much attention to improving staple cotton and had neglected short staple cottons. This year short staple cotton was exceeding the price of long staple cotton and he suggested that the present short staple tracts should be safeguarded and efforts made to increase the yield. Complaints were frequently received regarding the amount of cut and crushed seeds in Indian cotton. He thought the Committee might do something to see that more care was taken in the ginning factories.

The Vice-President said there was such a diversity of views that it was impossible to summarise them in the short time he wished to take up. When Mr. Deshpande recommended a book on "Agriculture in Soviet Russia," did he seriously expect the Committee to follow it? He did not think that was the type of work which would appeal to any one who had the interests of the cultivator at heart. Everything done in Russia spoke for retrogression; the growers were not paid in cash but in kind. In reply to Major Vanrenen he said that Indian mills should be left to frame their own policy as the millowners were quite capable of deciding whether they should go in for finer counts or not. The policy behind this Committee was the grower. The trade could take care of itself. The real question was "what lines were we to follow?" It would be seen, he said, from the replies received and also from the discussion that the policy the Committee laid down eight years ago had not been far wrong, and if it continued in the same way he thought it would have reason to compliment itself. A great deal had been said of *Verum* cotton. It had to be remembered that the *Roseum* type of cotton was rapidly replacing the indigenous cottons of the Central Provinces and Berar and *Verum* was simply taking the place of *Roseum*. He considered it ought to be developed to its fullest extent. In his opinion the policy that should be followed was that the natural advantages of each tract should be developed to their fullest extent. Other suggestions were that prizes should be given for better picking, etc., and also that the Committee should consult the trade so that the Agricultural Departments might be told what the requirements were likely to be. Two decidedly different views were expressed regarding long and short staple cottons. There was no doubt that as the world was progressing there was an increasing demand for finer cloth, but in his opinion there always would be a demand for short staple cottons. With that before it he thought the Committee was quite safe in increasing the production of long staple cotton but that efforts should be made to increase the yields of short

staple varieties. He thought it was a good idea that the Committee should get the trade together to find out what developments in spinning were likely in the near future. This was a piece of work which would be of great importance and would be a guide to future policy. He was very glad to hear from Mr. Royas that he approved of the licensing of gins and presses. Some years ago Mr. Burt had put forward proposals but they lacked support amongst the Committee itself. There was now a distinct feeling that if we could get licensing all these malpractices would cease. No definite resolution could be framed and he suggested that the next meeting should take up the points decided on.

This was agreed to.

SUBJECT 17 - Technological Research—Progress Report of the Director, Technological Laboratory.

The Director's Progress Report* was considered.

Sir Joseph Kay proposed and Mr. Milne seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously -

RESOLUTION 13.—“That the Progress Report of the Director, Technological Laboratory, be adopted.”

SUBJECT 18 —Technological Research Report of the Technological Research Sub-Committee.**

Sir Joseph Kay proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal and carried unanimously -

RESOLUTION 14. -“That the Report of the Technological Research Sub-Committee be approved.”

SUBJECT 19.—Agricultural Research- Report§ of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.

Sir Joseph Kay proposed and Mr. Burt seconded the following resolution which was carried subject to amendments in the light of the discussion to para 21 of the Report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee :—

RESOLUTION 15.—“That the report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee be adopted.”

Summary of discussion.

A long discussion took place on the merits of the proposed United Provinces Pink Boll-worm Extension Scheme— Para 21 of the Report. Several members were doubtful if the scheme could be made a success as it depended entirely on the co-operation of factoryowners. Others

* Appendix XIII (Page 61).

** Appendix XIV (Page 71).

§ Appendix XV (Page 75).

were inclined to question the feasibility of summing all stocks of seed in the villages so as to destroy all the contained *larvae*. Others considered that more details of the actual cost of the machinery, etc., required should be provided. In the end the Committee gave its approval to the principle of the scheme but decided that the Special Sub-Committee mentioned in the Report should, after negotiation with the United Provinces Government and trade interests, place a full report before the next meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee to enable it to come to a decision regarding the scheme.

SUBJECT 20.—Institute of Plant Industry, Indore—
*Policy to be followed.

Summary of discussion.

Discussion on this subject centred round the amount of research work that had been carried on at Indore. The Institute is peculiarly placed in this respect that it obtains its funds from two sources, viz., the Central Cotton Committee and the contributing States of Central India and Rajputana. The latter are more concerned with the general agronomy of cotton and other crops, while the Committee's funds were provided to enable Indore to become a Central Research Institute for cotton problems. In the past much more prominence has been given to the former branch of the work and not enough to research. The newly appointed Director will put before the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee new proposals for work and staff.

SUBJECT 21.—Report** of the Standing Finance Sub-Committee.

- (a) Balance Sheet.
- (b) Financial Statement.
- (c) Revised Estimates—1931-32.
- (d) Budget, 1932-33.
- (e) Auditors' Fees.

Sir Joseph Kay proposed and Mr. McCallum seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 17.—“That the Report of the Standing Finance Sub-Committee be adopted.”

“That the Revised Estimates for 1931-32 be adopted.”

“That the Budget for 1932-33 as amended be sanctioned.”

SUBJECT 22.—Provincial Cotton Committees—Abolition of the United Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee—
@Note by Secretary.

* Appendix XVI (Page 78).

** Appendix XVII (Page 81).
@ Appendix XVIII (Page 93).

Mr. Burt proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande and passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 18.—"That the Central Cotton Committee, while being thoroughly appreciative of the work which some Provincial Cotton Committees have accomplished, feels that sufficient use is not made of these local advisory bodies and recommends that they should be more closely associated with all matters connected with grants from the Committee. The Central Cotton Committee further deprecates the action of the United Provinces Government in failing to re-constitute the United Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee but trusts this will last only for the period of the financial stringency."

SUBJECT 23.—Representation* of Sind cotton growers on the Indian Central Cotton Committee.

Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik proposed and Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 19.—"That the Governor-General in Council be asked to nominate an additional member to represent the cotton growers of Sind."

SUBJECT 24.—Cotton Statistics—Comparison@ of Cotton Press Returns with Cotton Forecasts.

The President proposed and Mr. Jenkins seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 20.—"That Directors of Agriculture and others responsible for the preparation of cotton forecasts be asked to continue their co-operation in investigating the discrepancies pointed out in the Secretary's note between the forecasted crop and the press returns in the Provinces and Indian States with a view to obtaining greater accuracy in the cotton forecasts."

SUBJECT 25.—Cotton Statistics—Publication of All-India Cotton Forecasts by the Committee.

The Secretary's note† was recorded.

SUBJECT 26.—Cotton Statistics—Raw cotton trade statistics—Internal trade blocks—Separation of Kathiawar from Gujerat—††Reply from the Government of India.

Mr. Main proposed and Mr. Milne seconded the following resolution which was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 21.—"The Central Cotton Committee desires to thank the Government of India for agreeing to its request to separate the

* Appendix XIX (Page 95).

† Appendix XXI (Page 122).

@ Appendix XX (Page 95).

†† Appendix XXII (Page 122).

Kathiawar States from the Gujerat Trade Block for the purpose of compiling the Raw Cotton Trade Statistics.”

SUBJECT 27.—Fumigation of American Cotton—Letter from the Government of India.

The Secretary's note† was recorded.

SUBJECT 28.—Merging†† of the Committee's funds into Provincial Revenues—Reply from the Government of India.

The President proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Vonesh and carried unanimously :—

RESOLUTION 22.—“That the Central Cotton Committee thanks the Government of India for making arrangements to keep separate from Provincial Revenues the funds of the Central Cotton Committee.

SUBJECT 29.—Importation of foreign cotton seed.

The Secretary's note* was recorded.

SUBJECT 30.—Investigation into the cost of growing cotton in India—Reply from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.**

The Committee agreed to provide in its Budget a sum of Rs. 10,000 for preliminary expenses in connection with the scheme proposed by Mr. Burt which was approved. Power to nominate representatives from the Central Cotton Committee on the Joint Sub-Committee to work out details and guide the investigation was delegated to the Standing Finance Sub-Committee.

SUBJECT 31.—*Annual Report of the Dhulia Cotton Market for the year 1930-31.**

Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Ranchodji Naik proposed the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Kolhe and carried unanimously:—

RESOLUTION 23.—“The Central Cotton Committee has read with considerable pleasure the first report on the working of the Dhulia Cotton Market and suggests to the Bombay Government that a copy should be sent to every District Local Board and Municipality in the Presidency interested in cotton with a view to acquainting them with the successful establishment of a market run in the interests of the grower.”

SUBJECT 32.—Investigations into finance and marketing of cultivators' cotton—Report of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bombay Presidency, regarding formation of Co-operative Sale Societies in Sind.

† Appendix XXIII (Page 122).

†† Appendix XXIV (Page 123).

* Appendix XXV (Page 123).

** Appendix XXVI (Page 123).

*** Appendix XXVII (Page 126).

The correspondence[†] was recorded.

SUBJECT 33.—Export Duty† on raw cotton in Bombay.

The President proposed and Mr. Plymen seconded the following resolution which was carried unanimously:—

RESOLUTION 24.—“The Central Cotton Committee wishes to denounce the proposal passed by the Bombay Municipal Corporation to impose a cess of four annas per bale on all cotton exported from Bombay, as this cess will fall on the grower who will receive less for his produce. The Central Cotton Committee trusts the Bombay Government will refuse sanction to the proposal in the interests not only of the growers in the Presidency but of those in other parts of India.”

SUBJECT 34.—Provincial Cotton Committees.—Proceedings of the Central Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee.

The Secretary's *note and minutes of the meeting of the Provincial Cotton Committee of the Central Provinces and Berar were recorded.

SUBJECT 35.—Re-use of old hoops.

The Secretary's note** and enclosures were considered and it was decided to refer the subject back to the Local Sub-Committee or to the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Sub-Committee.

SUBJECT 36.—Baling of cotton with cotton material.—Letter from the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations.

The correspondence*** was recorded.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Sir Joseph Kay, the session concluded.

J. H. RITCHIE.

@ Appendix XXVIII (Page 131).

† Appendix XXIX (Page 132).

* Appendix XXX (Page 132).

** Appendix XXXI (Page 137).

*** Appendix XXXII (Page 141).

Local Sub-Committee.

- 4 "That the following members be appointed to compose the Local Sub-Committee :—
- Sir Joseph A. Kay (Vice-President),
 Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Rao Bahadur Bhimabhai Ranchodji Nark,
 Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande,
 Mr. D. McCallum,
 Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta" 12

Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.

- 5 "That the following members be appointed to form the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee :—
- I. Ex-Officio— Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,
 II. The Vice-President— Sir Joseph A. Kay,
 III. The Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore—
 Mr. F. K. Jackson,
 IV. Co-operative representative— Sardar Sampuran Singh,
 V. Cotton growers' representative— Mr. W. Roberts,
 VI. Cotton Trade representative—
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 VII. Four Agricultural Officers—Mr. T. F. Main,
 Mr. F. J. Plymen,
 Mr. D. Milne,
 Mr. V. Ramunatha Iyer.
 VIII. Additional members— Mr. B. C. Burt,
 Dr. L. C. Coleman,
 Dr. W. Burns,
 Mr. D. N. Mahita,
 Mr. Ram Prasad,
 Mr. H. H. Pandya,
 Mr. W. J. Jenkins,
 Mr. P. B. Richards,
 Mr. B. A. Collins,
 Mr. D. G. Munro,
 Mr. C. V. Sane

No.

RESOLUTIONS—(Contd.)

Page

IX. Co-opted member—Successor to Mr. Trevor Troughton,

X. The Secretary 12

Technological Research Sub-Committee.

6 "That the following members form the Technological Research Sub-Committee:—

The President,	}	ex-officio.
The Vice-President,		
Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,		
Mr. B. C. Burt,		
Mr. D. Milne,		
Mr. T. F. Main,		
Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,		
Mr. Y. G. Deshpande,		
Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal.		

The Bombay Millowners' Association, the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and the East India Cotton Association will be asked to nominate two representatives each" 13

Research Students Selection Sub-Committee.

7 "That the Research Students Selection Sub-Committee be composed of the following members:—

The President,
 The Vice-President,
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Mr. B. C. Burt,
 Dr. W. Burns,
 Mr. P. B. Richards,
 Mr. D. Milne,
 Mr. F. J. Plymen,
 Dr. L. C. Coleman,
 Mr. H. H. Pandya,
 Mr. T. F. Main,
 Mr. W. J. Jenkins,
 Mr. C. V. Sane,
 Mr. F. K. Jackson,
 Dr. Nazir Ahmad"

No.	RESOLUTIONS. —(Contd.)	Page
	Sub-Committee on Malpractices.	
8	"That the Sub-Committee on Malpractices consist of the following members : - The Vice-President, Mr. S. D. Sahasrabudhe, Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, Mr. D. McCallum, Mr. Chamlal B. Mehta, Mr. T. P. Main, Rao Bahadur Bhimabhai Ranchodji Naik, with power to co-opt"	14
	Central Provinces Cotton Market Bill.	
9	"The Central Cotton Committee approves in principle of the draft bill which has been introduced by a private member into the Central Provinces Legislative Council for supplying the Central Provinces with organised cotton markets on the lines of the one in Berar"	15
	Madras Cotton Control Bill.	
10	"The Central Cotton Committee approves of the action taken by the Local Sub-Committee in recommending to the Madras Government less drastic legislation under the Madras Cotton Control Bill provided that the scope of the Bill is restricted to the growing of Pulichai cotton in the Tinnevely area"	16
	Cotton ginning and pressing factories pools.	
11	"That the Report of the Local Sub-Committee on pools of cotton ginning and pressing factories be adopted"	16
	Publicity and propaganda.	
12	"That the Report of the Local Sub-Committee on the replies received from Provincial Directors of Agriculture on publicity and propaganda be adopted"	17
	Progress Report of the Director, Technological Laboratory.	
13	"That the Progress Report of the Director, Technological Laboratory, be adopted"	35
	Report of the Technological Research Sub-Committee.	
14	"That the Report of the Technological Research Sub-Committee be approved"	35

Report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.

- 15 "That the report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee be adopted" 35

Investigation into the cost of production of cotton.

- 16 "That a sum amounting to Rs. 10,000 be provided in ^{next} ~~this~~ year's budget for the initial expenses of an investigation into the cost of production of cotton and rotation crops".

Report of the Standing Finance Sub-Committee.

- 17 "That the report of the Standing Finance-Sub-Committee be adopted".
 "That the Revised Estimates for 1931-32 be adopted."
 "That the Budget for 1932-33 as amended be sanctioned" .. 36

Provincial Cotton Committees.

- 18 "That the Central Cotton Committee, while being thoroughly appreciative of the work which some Provincial Cotton Committees have accomplished, feels that sufficient use is not made of these local advisory bodies and recommends that they should be more closely associated with all matters connected with grants from the Committee. The Central Cotton Committee further deplores the action of the United Provinces Government in failing to re-constitute the United Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee but trusts this will last only for the period of the financial stringency" .. 37

Representation of Sind cotton growers on the Committee.

- 19 "That the Governor General in Council be asked to nominate an additional member to represent the cotton growers of Sind" 37

Comparison of Cotton Press Returns with Cotton Forecasts.

- 20 "That Directors of Agriculture and others responsible for the preparation of cotton forecasts be asked to continue their co-operation in investigating the discrepancies pointed out in the Secretary's note between the forecasted crop and the press returns in the Provinces and Indian States with a view to obtaining greater accuracy in the cotton forecasts." 37

No.	RESOLUTIONS---(Conclud.).	Page.
	Raw cotton trade statistics Separation of the Kathiawar States from the Gujarat Trade Block.	
21	"The Central Cotton Committee desires to thank the Government of India for agreeing to its request to separate the Kathiawar States from the Gujarat Trade Block for the purpose of compiling the Raw Cotton Trade Statistics." ..	37
	Merging of the Committee's funds into Provincial Revenues.	
22	"That the Central Cotton Committee thanks the Government of India for making arrangements to keep separate from Provincial Revenues the funds of the Central Cotton Committee"	38
	Annual Report of the Dhulia Cotton Market.	
23	"The Central Cotton Committee has read with considerable pleasure the first report on the working of the Dhulia Cotton Market and suggests to the Bombay Government that a copy should be sent to every District Local Board and Municipality in the Presidency interested in cotton with a view to acquainting them with the successful establishment of a market run in the interests of the grower" ..	38
	Export Duty on raw cotton in Bombay.	
24	"The Central Cotton Committee wishes to denounce the proposal passed by the Bombay Municipal Corporation to impose a cess of four annas per bale on all cotton exported from Bombay, as this cess will fall on the grower who will receive less for his produce. The Central Cotton Committee trusts the Bombay Government will refuse sanction to the proposal in the interests not only of the growers in the Presidency but of those in other parts of India"	39

APPENDIX I.

SUBJECT 3.—Retirement of members by rotation.

Secretary's Note.

Under Rule 3 of the Indian Cotton Cess Rules, the following members retire on completion of their three-year term of membership:—

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| (1) | The representative of the Punjab Agricultural Department. | The Director of Agriculture, Punjab. |
| (2) | The representative of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. | Sir Joseph A. Kay (<i>vice</i> Mr. T. G. Ralli). |
| (3) | The representative of the Tuticorin Chamber of Commerce. | Mr. J. Venesah. |
| (4) | The representative of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce. | Mr. J. Tinker (<i>vice</i> Mr. H. A. Wilkin-son). |
| (5) | The Commercial representative of Bengal. | Mr. Gritja Praxanna Chakravarty. |
| (6) | One representative of the Madras cotton growers. | M. R. Ry. K. Sarabha Reddi Gann. |
| (7) | The representative of the United Provinces cotton growers. | Rao Bahadur Rao Bikhram Sinha. |
| (8) | Do. do. do. | Rao Bahadur M. Anbo Prasad. |
| (9) | The representative of the Baroda State. | Mr. C. V. Sane. |
| (10) | One representative of the Bombay cotton growers. | Rao Sahib C. S. Shrivastha. |
| (11) | One representative of the Punjab cotton growers. | Sardar Ujjal Singh. |
| (12) | Additional member under Section 4 (2) of the Indian Cotton Cess Act. | Mr. C. R. Palatka. |
| (13) | Do. do. do. | Mr. W. J. Jackson (<i>vice</i> Mr. H. L. Thelwell). |

All retiring members are eligible for re-appointment. The necessary notices will be sent to the nominating bodies in February 1932.

Standing Finance Sub-Committee shall be a cotton growers' representative. The present members are:—

Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,
 Sir Joseph A. Kay (Chairman), } *ex-officio*.
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Mr. D. McCallum,
 Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande,
 Rao Bahadur B. R. Naik (Cotton growers' representative).

One seat on this Sub-Committee remains unfilled.

Two members of this Sub-Committee, viz., Sir Joseph A. Kay and Mr. J. Vonesch, will retire in March 1932 and if they are now re-elected to the Sub-Committee but are not re-nominated to the Committee in March next, it will be necessary for the Sub-Committee to fill the vacancies at a later date.

(2) *Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Sub-Committee*.—This is also a statutory Sub-Committee, appointed by the Committee to hold office for twelve months from April 1st. The constitution of the Sub-Committee and the present members are as follows:—

(a) The Vice-President (Sir Joseph A. Kay) *ex-officio*.

(b) *Five trade members resident in Bombay Presidency*:—

Messrs. Saklatvala, McCallum and Vonesch, and two seats vacant caused by resignation of Mr. W. Ellis Jones and Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas.

(c) *One trade member from each of the following provinces*:—

Madras	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. H. B. Moore;
Punjab	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. W. Roberts;
United Provinces	..	..	..	..	..	Mr. J. Tinker;
Central Provinces and Berar	..	..	..	..	..	Vacant —(Sir Sorabji B. Mehta's place).

(d) *The Co-operative representative*—Sardar Sampuran Singh—*ex-officio*.

The above three vacancies were not filled as the Sub-Committee did not meet during the year.

Five trade members resident in Bombay and four provincial trade members have to be appointed.

(3) *Local Sub-Committee*.—This is not a statutory Sub-Committee but is composed of local members or those within easy reach of Bombay. The present members are:—

Sir Joseph A. Kay (*Vice-President*),
 Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas,
 Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,
 Mr. J. Vonesch,
 Mr. C. V. Sane,
 Major D. Vanrenen,
 Mr. M. P. Kolhe,
 Rao Bahadur Bhimabhai R. Naik,
 Mr. D. McCallum.

There are two vacancies on this Sub-Committee caused by new representatives coming to the Committee from the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, and the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association.

(4) *Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.*—The constitution of this Sub-Committee was laid down at the 10th meeting of the Indian Central Cotton Committee. The present membership is as follows:—

- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| (i) President | .. .. | Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya. |
| (ii) Vice-President | .. .. | Sir Joseph A. Kay. |
| (iii) Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore | .. .. | Mr. F. K. Jackson. |
| (iv) Co-operative representative | .. .. | Sardar Sampuran Singh. |
| (v) One cotton growers' representative | .. .. | Mr. W. Roberts. |
| (vi) One cotton trade representative | .. .. | Vacant—caused by resignation of Mr. W. Ellis Jones. |
| (vii) Four Agricultural officers | | Mr. T. F. Main,
Mr. F. J. Plymton,
Mr. D. Milne,
Mr. V. Ramanatha Iyer (co-opted in place of Mr. Hilson). |
| (viii) Additional members | | Mr. B. C. Burt,
Dr. L. C. Coleman,
Dr. W. Burns,
Mr. D. N. Mahta,
Mr. Ram Prasad,
Mr. H. H. Pandya,
Mr. W. J. Jenkins,
Mr. P. B. Richards. |

- (ix) Co-opted member Vacant—Mr. Trevor Troughton's place.
- (x) The Secretary.

In addition to the above, the following members were co-opted at the July 1931 meeting of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee:—

Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,
Mr. C. V. Sane,

Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal,
Mr. V. Ramanatha Iyer (referred to under item (vii) above).

Nos. (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above are members *ex-officio*. Membership under (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii) has to be filled.

(5) *Technological Research Sub-Committee.*—The present members of the Sub-Committee are:—

The President—Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,	} <i>ex-officio</i> .
The Vice-President—Sir Joseph A. Kay,	
Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,	}
Mr. D. Milne,	
Mr. B. C. Burt,	
Mr. T. F. Main,	
Mr. Chunilal B. Mehta,	
Mr. Y. G. Deshpande,	
Sheth Naranlal Jivanlal,	
The Secretary.	

Co-opted members:—

Sir Manmohandas Ramji	}
Mr. F. Stones	
Seth Chamanlal G. Parekh	
Sir Chinubhai Madhavlal	
Mr. Bhaidas Nanlal	
Mr. R. G. Saraiya	

Co-opted at the July 1931 meeting of Technological Research Sub-Committee.

Representatives of the Bombay Mill-owners' Association.
Representatives of the Ahmedabad Mill-owners' Association.
Representatives of the East India Cotton Association.

There are two vacancies on this Sub Committee caused by the resignation of Messrs. W. Ellis Jones and G. R. Hilson.

(6) *Research Students Selection Sub Committee*—The composition of this Sub Committee was laid down at the 5th meeting of the Committee to be all provincial agricultural representatives, the Directors of Agriculture of Indian States, who are members of the Committee, the President and the Vice President. The present Sub Committee consists of.—

The President—Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya,

The Vice President—Sir Joseph A. Kay,

Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,

Mr. B. C. Burt,

Dr. W. Burns,

Mr. P. B. Richards,

Mr. D. Milne,

Mr. F. J. Plymen,

Dr. L. C. Coleman,

Mr. H. H. Pandya,

Mr. T. F. Main,

Mr. W. J. Jenkins,

Dr. Nazir Ahmad and

Mr. T. K. Jackson.

There are four vacancies on this Sub Committee caused by the resignation of Sir Sorabji B. Mehta, Mr. G. R. Hilson, Dr. V. N. Lakhote and Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas.

(7) *Sub Committee on Malpractices*—This Sub Committee was formed at the 19th meeting of the Committee in July 1929 and is composed of the Vice President and six members of the Committee with powers to co-opt additional members representative of different sections of the cotton industry in India, whether members of the Indian Central Cotton Committee or not. The present members are —

Sir Joseph A. Kay (Vice President),

Mr. S. D. Saklatvala,

Mr. D. McCallum,

Mr. T. F. Main and

Rao Bahadur Bhumbhai R. Nark.

There are two vacancies on this Sub Committee caused by the resignation of Mr. W. Ellis Jones and owing to the fact that Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas' place was not filled when he retired in March 1931.

APPENDIX III.

SUBJECT 5—Cotton Transport Act—Madras.

Secretary's Note

The following note on the working of the Cotton Transport Act in Madras Presidency has been received from the Director of Agriculture, Madras. When this subject was discussed last December, Mr. Hilson said he thought it best to leave the matter alone until the trade asked for action to be taken. The intention of the Agricultural Department was to cover part of the area with *Canalasia* under irrigation and the rest with *Karunganni*. He thought it would be necessary to protect the *Imnavelly* area at a later date. No action appears to be necessary by the Committee at this juncture.

THE WORKING OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, DURING 1930-31.

The Cotton Transport Act of 1923 was put into effect in 1925 in the Madras Presidency and has been in force since then. There are now two protected areas, viz.: (1) the Southons tract comprising the 11 districts of Chingleput, Tanjore, Madura, Ramnad, and Tinnevely, and (2) the Northons and Westerns tract comprising the four districts of Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah. There is, however, no restriction on (1) the import of cotton seed and (2) the import of cotton of any kind by road and river into these districts.

2. *Northern and Westerns Tract.*—As in the past, the operation of the Act has effectively checked the importation into this tract of Cocandras cotton. *Kapas* and ginned cotton continued, however, to come in by road across the Tungabhadra river from H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions. This import was only about half of that in the previous year, being estimated at 5,000 bales at Adoni, 2,500 at Bellary, and 1,200 bales at Kurnool. The decline in imports is mainly due to the low price of cotton. About 45 tons of seed were imported this year mostly for sowing from Gadag side mainly into Nandyal.

Southern Tract.—The import of cotton from the Central Provinces into this tract has been effectively checked. Complaints were received that the morehants of Tiruppur carted Mysore *kapas* from Bangalore to Hosur and then railed it to Tiruppur with a view to mix it with *Cambodia*, heavy contracts having been made by dealers with firms for second crop *Cambodia*, the supply of which ran short. Enquiries show that such consignment from Hosur to Tiruppur in December 1930 and January 1931 amounted to about 2,250 Imperial Maunds of 82 2/7 lbs. It is also reported that *Pulichai* cotton seed was imported into parts of Ramnad and Tinnevely for sowing. The question of controlling the growth of this cotton in the South is under the consideration of the Government.

The Southons tract is extensive and has facilities to grow and exchange all varieties of cotton both inferior and superior. For example, merchants at Virudhunagar got by railway without restriction the poor variety of Nadam-Bourbon *kapas* from the Trichinopoly district and mix it with good *Cambodia kapas*, got from the neighbourhood of Dindigul and Ayalur. It is obvious that the amalgamation of the Tiruppur and Tinnevely areas has therefore reduced considerably the benefits that should have accrued from the working of the Act.

APPENDIX IV.

SUBJECT 6.—Cotton Transport Act—Indore—Railway Stations within the protected area.

Secretary's Note.

The notification and the Rules under the Indore Cotton Transport Act were brought to the notice of the Committee at its meeting in July 1931.

The railway stations within the Protected Area are given below:—

Rajputana-Malwa Railway.

Sanawad, Burwaha, Mukhatyara, Choral, Kalakund, Patal Pani, Mhow, Rao, Indore, Palia, Ajnod, Fatilabad, Chambal, Tharod, Piplia.

Godhra, Rullam, Ujjain, Nagda Railway.

Bamnia, Garoth, Shamgarh.

Indian Midland Railway.

Tarana Road.

The Indore Durbar has been requested to address the Government of India to issue the necessary notification under the Indian Cotton Transport Act authorising railway authorities in British India to refuse to book, except under license, cotton from stations outside the protected area to stations within it.

APPENDIX V.

SUBJECT 7.—*Cotton Policy in Gujerat.*

Secretary's Note.

At the last meeting the Committee had a very full debate on the policy which the Agricultural Department should follow in Gujerat and the discussion was crystallised in the following resolution which was passed unanimously :—

RESOLUTION.—"I. That the case be sent back to the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, with the request that he will lay down comparative experimental plots of 1027 A. L. F. and 1A cottons on :—

- (a) experimental farms,
- (b) the lands of representative holdings of ordinary cultivators scattered throughout the area under consideration,
- (c) that notes of purity of the type, size and shape of the plots, repetitions and other data which will help new interpretations of the results be noted,
- (d) this experiment to be carried out for two years and reported on to this Committee along with the spinning tests of fibre from the experimental plots and with the results of past tests.

II. That he will collect information to show whether in the region in question there are—

- (a) differences in quality of soil,
- (b) differences in methods of cultivation, or
- (c) other factors which are sufficient to cause difference in price of the fibre such as those shown in columns 2 and 4 of Statement III

III. That the Ahmedabad and Bombay Millowners be requested to submit their views on this subject to the Indian Central Cotton Committee

The Director of Agriculture has now forwarded the following extract from a letter received from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujerat, in which the latter asks for the Committee's approval to the details of the arrangements to implement the above resolution so that there may not be experienced the same difficulty in accepting the results as was the case at the last meeting.

Extract from letter No. C S of 8th November 1931 from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujerat, Surat, to the Director of Agriculture, B. P., Poona.

With reference to the resolution No. 20 of the Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, of 11th July 1931, I have the honour to state that the wishes of the Sub-Committee of the Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, expressed in No. 1867 of 11th December 1930 of the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, addressed to you, were fully carried out by forming a Committee of the representatives of the Agricultural Department, the growers, the trade and the Mills and by drawing the samples by the small Sub-Committee appointed by the above Committee and testing the same by the mills and the Matunga Laboratory but doubts were raised about the samples being really representative.

In view of this it is essential that details of the plan to carry out the Resolution No. 20 mentioned above should be approved by the Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay, so that there may be no difficulty in accepting the results.

The resolution requires that the comparative experimental plots of 1027 A.L.F. and 1A cottons should be laid down on :—

- (a) Experimental Farms.
- (b) The lands of representative holdings of ordinary cultivators scattered throughout the area under consideration.

(2) No purchaser of cotton shall be allowed to make any deductions from the agreed price of the consignment except for damage including excessive moisture. Any purchaser found making "Dharmadaya," "Gorakshan" or similar other deductions or contributions shall be liable on conviction to a fine which may extend to fifty rupees for each offence.

13. Every Market Committee shall be a body corporate and shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue and be sued in its corporation name, and shall be competent to acquire and hold property both movable and immovable to lease, sell or otherwise transfer any movable or immovable property which may have become vested in or been acquired by it, and to contract and to do all other things necessary for the purposes of this Act.

14. (1) Every Market Committee may, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, raise the money required for carrying out the purposes of this Act on the security of any property vested in and belonging to the Market Committee, and of any taxes leviable by the Market Committee under this Act.

(2) The conditions under which such money shall be raised and time within which the same shall be repayable shall be subject to the previous sanction of the Local Government.

15. (1) If in the opinion of the Local Government a Market Committee is not competent to perform, or persistently makes default in the performance of, the duties imposed on it by or under this Act, or exceeds or abuses its powers, the Local Government may, after giving the Market Committee an opportunity for explanation, by an order published in the Central Provinces Gazette, declare such Market Committee to be incompetent, or in default, or to have exceeded or abused its powers, as the case may be, and may supersede it.

(2) When a Market Committee has been superseded, all members of the Committee shall, as from date of the order, vacate their offices as members.

(3) When a Market Committee has been superseded, all property and rights vested in it shall, subject to all charges and liabilities affecting the same, vest in Government.

Provided that if no new market committee is constituted for the cotton market under section 5, all property that shall remain after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities of the superseded market committee shall vest in the local authority of the area in which the cotton market is situated for the purpose of any object of public utility in the said area.

16. Wherever the Local Government has, by a Notification under Section 4, declared any place to be a cotton market, no person shall, within the area of such cotton market or within a distance thereof to be notified in the Central Provinces Gazette in this behalf in each case by the Local Government, set up, establish or continue or allow to be continued any other market for the purpose of the purchase and sale of cotton.

Explanation—A person shall not be deemed to set up, establish or continue or allow to be continued a place as a market, for the purposes of the purchase and sale of cotton if he sells his own cotton outside the premises set apart by the Market Committee for the purpose of purchase and sale of cotton.

17. Whoever in contravention of this Act sets up, establishes, continues or allows to be continued any market for the purpose of the purchase and sale of cotton shall be punished on a conviction by a competent Magistrate with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, and, in case of a continuing breach of the provision of section 16, with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for each day after the first during which the breach continues.

18. No offence under this Act or under any rule or bye-law made under this Act shall be triable by a Magistrate other than a Magistrate of the first class.

All fines and damages recovered from an offender shall be paid to the Market Committee. Prosecutions under this Act may be instituted by any person duly authorized in writing by the Market Committee in this behalf.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

This Bill is based on the recommendations of the Indian Cotton Committee of 1917-18 and on the Berar Cotton and Grain Markets Law of 1897 and also on the Bill introduced and passed in the Bombay Legislative Council. At present there are cotton markets in the Central Provinces but they are constituted under the Municipal Act of 1922 and hence they are solely under the control of the municipalities. In the municipal towns generally the traders and merchants are the influential persons and it is easy for them to get into the municipality by election and thus to capture that body; as a result of this the cotton markets which are under the municipal control are under the control of the traders and merchants in the town who try to protect their own interest at the costs of the agriculturists who are the sellers of cotton in the market. The large bulk of sellers or agriculturists who have to deal with cotton have really no voice whatsoever in the management and framing of rules, regulations of the market. At present as there is no representation of the agriculturist sellers on the cotton market, they do not get proper price for their cotton; deductions and contributions like "Dharmadaya" and "Gorakshana" which are quite illegal are made from the price of the cotton at the time of payment by the purchasers; not only this but at times the carts of cotton which are unloaded in the ginning factories after the prices are fixed are rejected by the purchaser on some pretext or other and then it goes very difficult for the poor agriculturist seller to manage the things. He has either to give the cotton at the low rate or take it back and wait for the next day in the market. The *Adatya*s in several markets themselves get the *kapas Patti* and thereon payments for the *kapas* sold directly from the purchaser and the seller has no means to make out what the real weight and the price of his cotton is and has to remain satisfied with whatever the *Adatya* gives him in his hands. There are several other malpractices at present going on in several markets in this province. The poor and dumb agriculturists are crying for this and the Government has not yet done anything to put a stop to this. Government also has recognised in Council and out of Council that these malpractices are going on. Now in order to put a stop to this and to regulate the whole thing this Bill has been framed.

This Bill gives power to the Local Government to establish market by notification in the local Gazette after consulting the local authorities. On the establishment of a cotton market a Market Committee is to be constituted of the cotton growers, cotton traders and the representatives of local bodies.

Power for making rules for the composition of the Market Committee, the management of the market and the conduct of the affairs of the Cotton Market Committee is given to the Local Government who have to publish those rules in the Central Provinces Gazette, and also to put them before the Central Provinces Legislative Council before they are brought into force.

Under clause 16, no private market can be opened by private individuals in or near the market for the purchase and sale of cotton, in order to frustrate the object of this Bill.

Provision has also been made for the long felt want of the agriculturists to declare "dharmadaya" and other deductions illegal and any recovery of them is punishable with fine. Provision has also been made with disallowing trade allowances other than those prescribed and for penalties for violation of the substantive provisions of the Act and the rules, subject to the rules made by the Local Government the clause 9 allows market committees to employ servants for the management of the market. In markets, a market Superintendent will probably be needed and in some markets it may be desirable for weighmen to be servants of the Market Committee and not, as at present, the employees of individual buyers. The provision of an unbiased weighman is an important matter.

APPENDIX VII.

SUBJECT 9.—*Madras Cotton Control Bill.*

Secretary's Note.

At the 59th meeting of the Local Sub-Committee held in September 1930, the following resolution was passed and forwarded to the Madras Government:—

"The Central Cotton Committee recommends the Madras Government to introduce suitable legislation to stamp out 'Pulichai' from the Karunganni area and invites attention to similar legislation in force in California and the Sudan."

The Director of Agriculture, Madras, was asked by his Government to prepare a draft bill to this end and this was received from the Madras Government and placed before the Local Sub-Committee at its 68th meeting held on the 28th September 1931 when the following resolution was passed:—

"That this Sub-Committee considers clause 5 (1) (ii) rather drastic and the penalties contemplated in clauses 4 and 6 (2) very severe, considering the fact that the Bill is the first of its kind in India and recommends to the Madras Government that the Bill might be passed with necessary modifications to make it less severe. Drastic legislation could be introduced later on, if necessary."

A copy of the draft bill is attached. The action of the Local Sub-Committee requires the endorsement of the Central Cotton Committee.

A Bill to provide for the prohibition of the cultivation and possession of certain kinds of cotton, the mixing of such cotton with other cotton, the trade in such cotton and the restriction of the use of such cotton.

WHEREAS it is expedient in the best interests of the growers of cotton in certain areas in the Presidency of Madras, the cotton trade and the economic prosperity of the said Presidency, to maintain the quality and reputation of the cotton grown in those areas and for that purpose to prohibit therein, the cultivation and possession of certain kinds of cotton, the mixing of such kinds of cotton with other cotton and the trade in such kinds of cotton and to restrict the use thereof;

AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act:—

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title and extent. 1. (1) This Act may be called the Madras Cotton Control Act, 193 .

(2) It extends to the whole of the Presidency of Madras.

Definitions. 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(a) "cotton" means cotton plant, ginned and unginned cotton, cotton waste and cotton seed;

(b) "notified area" means an area in which any kind of cotton is proscribed by a notification under section 3; and

(c) "proscribed cotton" means cotton proscribed by a notification under Section 3.

3. (1) If the Local Government are of opinion that the mixing of any kind of cotton with other cotton will be detrimental to the best interests of the growers of cotton, the cotton trade or the economic prosperity of the Presidency of Madras, they may by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette—
Power of Local Government to issue notification proscribing specified cotton and prohibiting its cultivation, etc.

(i) declare such kind of cotton to be proscribed, and

(ii) prohibit—

- (a) the cultivation of such proscribed cotton, or
- (b) the mixing of such proscribed cotton with any other kind of cotton, or
- (c) the possession of such proscribed cotton or of any cotton which is mixed with such proscribed cotton, or
- (d) the trade in such proscribed cotton, or

(iii) restrict the use of such proscribed cotton.

(2) Every notification under sub-section (1) shall define the local area within which and the period during which it shall be in force.

(4) Whoever, in contravention of any notification under section 3 (a) cultivates any proscribed cotton, or

Penalties.

- (b) mixes any proscribed cotton with any other kind of cotton, or
- (c) possesses any proscribed cotton or any cotton which is mixed with any proscribed cotton, or
- (d) trades in any proscribed cotton, or
- (e) uses any proscribed cotton, shall be liable to a fine which may extend to fifty rupees and in default to simple imprisonment which may extend to one month and upon any subsequent conviction to a fine which may extend to five hundred rupees and in default to simple imprisonment which may extend to six months;

Provided that the keeping in a spinning mill of any proscribed cotton in the form of unginned cotton for the purpose of manufacture into yarn in that mill shall not be deemed to be an offence under this Act.

5. (1) Any officer authorised in this behalf by the Local Government may—

Power of entry and seizure.

(i) between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

- (a) enter upon any land in a notified area in which he knows or suspects that any proscribed cotton is being cultivated in contravention of a notification under section 3 and may uproot or cause to be uprooted any such cotton, and
 - (b) enter upon or into any land, building, vessel or place in a notified area in which he knows or suspects that any proscribed cotton or any cotton which is mixed with any proscribed cotton is kept in contravention of a notification under Section 3;
 - (ii) in case of resistance to entry under clause (i), break open any door and remove any other obstacle to such entry; and
 - (iii) seize such uprooted cotton, proscribed cotton or cotton which is mixed with any proscribed cotton, as the case may be.
- (2) Every officer seizing any cotton under this section shall forthwith—
- (a) make a report of such seizure, to the Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the offences committed in respect of such cotton, together with a list of such cotton and furnish a copy of such list to the occupier of the land, building, vessel or place on or in which such seizure was made, and
 - (b) subject to such rules as the Local Government may prescribe, forward such cotton to the nearest officer authorised by the Local Government to receive it, for examination and report to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

(3) The opinion of the authorised officer referred to in clause (b) of sub-section (2) contained in any document signed by such officer regarding the cotton sent to him for examination under that clause, may be used as evidence as to the nature of such cotton, in any inquiry, trial or proceeding under this Act.

6. (1) (Every owner or occupier of any land, building, vessel or place shall give all Duty of owner and reasonable facilities to any officer authorised under sub-section occupier to give facilities for inspection (1) of section 5 to inspect such land, building, vessel or place. by authorised officer.

(2) Whoever commits a breach of the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be punishable with fine which may extend to rupees fifty.

7. No prosecution for an offence made punishable by this Act shall be instituted:—

Previous sanction and limitation for prosecution. (i) without the previous sanction of the Director of Agriculture, Madras, or

(ii) after six months from the date of the commission of the offence.

8. No offence made punishable by this Act shall be inquired into or tried by a Court Trial of offences. inferior to that of a Presidency Magistrate or a Magistrate of the second class.

9. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding whatsoever shall be entertained Indemnity. in any court against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance or execution of this Act.

10. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, Power of Local Government to make rules. make rules consistent with this Act to carry into effect the purpose thereof.

(2) In making any rule, the Local Government may provide that a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

APPENDIX VIII.

SUBJECT 10.—*Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act—Progress made in Indian States.*

Secretary's Note.

Since the last meeting of the Committee the following further information has been received regarding the progress made in Indian States in the introduction of legislation on the lines of the Indian Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act.

Narsingarh State.—The Darbar has framed a set of Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Rules which have been in force from 31st December 1930.

Kotah State.—There is only one cotton pressing factory in the State. The Kotah Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Rules of Samvat 1988 came into force from the 1st October 1931. The press mark is KT.

Bikaner State.—It is understood that a Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Bill will be placed before the forthcoming session of the Bikaner State Legislative Assembly.

Bundi State.—The State has agreed to furnish weekly cotton press returns during the current cotton season.

Gwalior State.—The Gwalior Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act together with the rules have been approved by the Special Committee of the Council and referred to the Council for approval and necessary action.

Mysore State.—The Mysore Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Rules have been published and cotton press returns are now being supplied. There are six pressing factories in the State.

Maler Kotla State.—The British India Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act (Act XII of 1925) has been adopted by the State.

the entry of their owners into the pool. In consequence, rates have been forced up to a level which can only be regarded as excessive, to the detriment of the cultivator who is unable to stand out against a monopoly. Whilst, in most districts, the ginning and pressing charges, including the contribution to the pool, average about Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 for ginning and the same amount for pressing a bale of 400 pounds of lint, in some cases we found rates as high as Rs. 11 or Rs. 12 for each process.

It is difficult to suggest any suitable remedy for the evils resulting from pools. We cannot, on principle, recommend an obvious solution which would be the fixing of rates by Government. We look forward to a great increase in the number of ginneries run by Co-operative Societies but this will be a very slow process. In the meantime, the proposal we have put forward above that no license should be granted to a ginning or pressing factory, which does not undertake to work for at least eight weeks in the year, unless prevented by causes beyond the control of its owner, should have a beneficial effect in preventing the creation of gins or presses merely for the purpose of sharing in the profits of a pool. We would further suggest that, in districts where there are more ginning or pressing factories than are necessary for dealing with a bumper crop, the local authorities might induce the owners of some of the factories to move them to localities, where they would be of real use, by the offer of Government land on easy terms. We consider that, where members of a pool in any district keep one or more factories closed, without adequate justification, no night shift working should be allowed in any circumstances. Night shifts are allowed under the Factory Act with the permission of the Factory Inspector. In the cases specified, such permission should invariably be refused. We do not see why labour should be asked to work at night when there are factories existing which, if worked during the day-time, can deal with the crop of the season, without resorting to a night-shift."

In view of the fact that the licensing of gins and presses was not made compulsory under the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act the action proposed above cannot be applied to factories in British India though certain Indian States are further advanced in this respect.

The Local Sub-Committee is of opinion that under present conditions nothing can be done by this Committee beyond drawing the attention of the Local Governments concerned to the reports carried out by their own officers and requesting them to take what action they consider necessary to see that the grower is not penalised by a combination of factory owners. An investigation carried out by the Punjab Government also showed that the price charged for ginning and pressing was higher in a place where a pool existed. The evil appears to be general in India and the Local Sub-Committee is of opinion that copies of the reports should be sent to all Local Governments and their attention drawn to the action suggested for the Provinces where enquiry has shown that the existence of pools increases the cost to the grower of ginning and pressing.

APPENDIX X.

SUBJECT 12.—*Establishment of markets under the Hyderabad Agricultural Markets Act.* Secretary's Note.

Information has been received from the Director-General and Secretary to Government, Department of Commerce and Industry, H. E. H. the Nizam's Government, that the Hyderabad Agricultural Markets Act has been applied to the following towns in the State in addition to the existing market at Nanded:—

Jalna	..	In Aurangabad District—for cotton and other agricultural produce.
Umri	..	Nanded District—for cotton.
Latur	..	Osmanabad District—for cotton.
Sailu—	..	Parbhani District—both for agricultural produce and cotton.

APPENDIX XI.

SUBJECT 14.—*Summary of Proceedings of the Local Sub-Committee.*

Secretary's Note.

Since the last meeting of the Committee in July, four meetings of the Local Sub-Committee have been held. Mr. W. Ellis Jones resigned membership of the Committee and his place on the Sub-Committee was filled by Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas.

2. The Sub-Committee addressed the B. B. & C. I. Railway protesting against the proposed increase in the terminal charge on cotton from local stations to Bombay. The increase has not been made.

3. The Sub-Committee also sent a strong representation to the Bombay Government protesting against the proposal of the Bombay Municipal Corporation to levy an export duty on raw cotton.

4. The Sub-Committee dealt at three of its meetings with correspondence in connection with a protest against the increase in license fees for *adhalyas* under the Revised Berar Market Rules. The Sub-Committee considered that the new Rules should first be tried out before amendments were suggested and no further action was taken.

5. The Sub-Committee went very carefully into a draft Bill—the Madras Cotton Control Bill—sent for opinion by the Madras Government, but considering the penalties too severe the following resolution was passed requesting the Government of Madras to modify some of the clauses:—

“That this Sub-Committee considers clause 5(1) (ii) rather drastic and the penalties contemplated in clauses 4 and 6(2) very severe, considering the fact that the Bill in the first of its kind in India and recommends to the Madras Government that the Bill might be passed with necessary modifications to make it less severe. Drastic legislation could be introduced later on, if necessary.”

6. The Karachi Joint Cotton Committee consulted the Committee on the desirability or otherwise of fixing the staple of the Punjab-American contract at $\frac{3}{4}$ " average instead of $\frac{3}{4}$ " minimum. In view of the encouragement that a lowering of the standard would give to mixing, the Sub-Committee decided to recommend to the Karachi Joint Cotton Committee that the standard should be kept at $\frac{3}{4}$ " minimum.

7. The Sub-Committee approved of the revised draft rules under the Hyderabad Agricultural Markets Act.

8. The Sub-Committee was consulted by the Central Provinces Agricultural Department regarding the marketing of *Verum* cotton and it was decided to refer the Marketing Officer to the East India Cotton Association with whom a satisfactory arrangement has been worked out.

9. The Sub-Committee went very carefully into the Reports submitted by the Local Governments of Bombay, the Central Provinces and Berar and Ajmer-Merwara into the effect of 'pools' of cotton ginning and pressing factories on the price paid to the grower for his cotton. This is dealt with separately in the form of a Report from the Sub-Committee to the Central Cotton Committee.

10. The Sub-Committee also considered the suggestions submitted by Directors of Agriculture on the question of publicity and propaganda in the Provinces in connection with the Committee's work. The Sub-Committee's views on this subject are given in the form of a report which will be found separately on the Agenda.

APPENDIX XII.

SUBJECT 15.—Publicity and Propaganda work by the Committee—Report of the Local Sub-Committee on replies received from Provincial Directors of Agriculture.

One of the recommendations of the Local Sub-Committee on Publicity and Propaganda accepted by the Central Cotton Committee at its July meeting was as follows:—

"We consider that much more direct publicity could be given to the Committee and its work by the Provincial Agricultural Departments and by the Provincial representatives on the Committee than has been done in the past. The Committee should request the Head of the Agricultural Department in each Province to submit proposals for the extension of publicity and propaganda with regard to the Committee's work in the Province and to indicate in what manner and to what extent the assistance of the Committee could be most profitably utilised in such work."

Directors of Agriculture were accordingly addressed and asked to submit proposals. Their replies have been received and are attached.*

These proposals were considered at the meeting of the Local Sub-Committee held on the 7th December, and the Sub-Committee desires to make the following recommendation:—

The replies received to the Committee's pamphlet on Cotton Improvement in India, which contained in addition suggestions for future work, show that the Committee's work is neither known nor appreciated and the Local Sub-Committee is of opinion that this is due entirely to the fact that no systematic publicity has been carried out. The Local Sub-Committee is strongly of opinion that much more attention should be paid to this branch of the Committee's activities, and recommends that the Committee should employ a professional journalist or publicity agent, on the lines of the suggestion contained in Mr. Main's letter, to write up for the press the work the Committee has done and is doing; to devise the best means of bringing the Committee's work to the notice of the trade, the grower and the general public; to consider, in consultation with local authorities, the suggestions already received as to methods of propaganda and publicity and to decide how far they are applicable to other areas.

The Sub-Committee feels that the adverse criticisms which has been levelled against the Committee and its work would have been of the reverse order if the public had been kept informed of our activities and it therefore strongly recommends that scientific propaganda should be taken in hand at once and this can only be done by one trained in this form of work.

APPENDIX XIII.

*SUBJECT 17.—Technological Research—Progress Report of the Director, Technological Laboratory, Matunga.**Summary of Progress Report (No. 17) of the Director, Technological Laboratory, Matunga.*

INTRODUCTION.—The present report gives a review of the work done at the Technological Laboratory from 1st June 1931 to 31st October 1931. As will be shown in the body of the report the progress of the work, described in my last Progress Report No. 16, has been well maintained in all directions, viz., testing of agricultural and trade samples, technological work, research work on properties of cotton fibre, etc., etc. The Moisture Testing Section to which a brief reference was made in the previous report has been working in full swing during the period under review. One series of tests on specially pressed bales of cotton has already been completed and another series of tests on ordinary bales is under contemplation. The work done during the period under review will be described under the following heads:—

- I. Spinning Laboratory.
- II. Research Laboratory.
- III. Moisture Testing Section.
- IV. Publications.
- V. General.

I. SPINNING LABORATORY.

The following table gives the distribution of the samples received for tests up to 31st October 1931 together with the figures for the corresponding period of the previous year:—

	1-6-31 to 31-10-31.	1-6-30 to 31-10-30.
Agricultural Departments	42	50
Trade Samples	19	27
Fibre Test samples	66	3
Special test samples	4	..
	131	80

It will be seen that as compared with the corresponding period of 1930 there is a small decrease in the number of cottons received for spinning tests but a very considerable increase in the number of samples received for fibre tests. The total number of samples received for tests shows an increase of as much as 64 per cent. over last year's figure.

The number and distribution of samples, lots and counts actually spun together with the corresponding figures for 1930 are given in the following table:—

Province.	Samples.		Lots.		Counts.	
	1-6-31 to 31-10-31	1-6-30 to 31-10-30	1-6-31 to 31-10-31	1-6-30 to 31-10-30	1-6-31 to 31-10-31	1-6-30 to 31-10-30
Bombay	21	36	21	44	67	133
Punjab	27	25	27	25	78	62
United Provinces .. .. .	..	4	..	4	..	8
Madras	35	50	35	50	108	148
Central Provinces .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	24	14	24	14	72	42
Total	107	129	107	137	325	393
Standard .. .. .	..	1	..	1	..	9
Trade Tests	23	27	47	27	109	63
Special Tests	12	..	16	..	48	..
Grand Total	142	157	170	165	482	465

It will be seen that as compared with 1930 there is a small decrease in the number of samples spun but the numbers of lots and counts into which these samples were spun show a small increase.

The following table shows the distribution of spinning test and fibre test reports issued during the period under review together with figures for the corresponding five months of 1930 :—

Reports.	1-6-31 to 31-10-31	1-6-30 to 31-10-30.
Spinning Test Reports	39	41
Fibre Test Reports	10	..
Total	49	41

It will be seen that whereas the number of spinning test reports issued is very nearly the same the number of fibre test reports issued in 1931 is 10 as compared with nil in 1930. The total number of reports issued shows an increase of 22 per cent.

Agricultural Samples.—From amongst the tests on agricultural samples the following may be mentioned as being of particular interest.

1. Tests on samples of Karunganni cotton known to be adulterated with the inferior Pulichai cotton. The Karunganni cotton has, on the average of 7 seasons, been found suitable for 24's standard warp counts whereas the best sample among the adulterated mixtures could only spin up to 16's counts. This shows clearly the great harm done by adulterating Karunganni with Pulichai cotton.

2. Tests on mixtures of Punjab-American 289F and 4F. Hitherto similar tests have been made on known mixtures of 4F and desi cotton but with the extension of the area under cultivation of Punjab-American 289F in the Punjab it is highly probable that the practice of mixing may spread to 289F and 4F. It was, therefore, thought desirable to forestall such a possibility by undertaking tests on mixtures containing known quantities of P. A. 4F. The mixtures selected for this purpose contained 10, 20, 30, etc., per cent. of 4F and the spinning tests yielded the significant result that, on the average, an increase of 10 per cent. in the proportion of 4F reduced the spinning value of the mixture by 3 standard warp counts.

Trade Tests.—According to the agreement between the East India Cotton Association and the Indian Central Cotton Committee, the Association continued to supply samples of cotton representing fair average quality of the commercial crop. Altogether 15 such samples were received and tested during the period under review. Another 6 samples were received and tested by virtue of a similar arrangement between the Millowners' Associations of Bombay and Ahmedabad and the Committee. The trade descriptions of these cottons are given in the list of Technological Circulars in the 'Publication' section of this report.

An interesting series of tests were undertaken on behalf of the East India Cotton Association on samples of African cottons. Owing to the increasing consumption of these growths in India the East India Cotton Association has appointed a Special Sub-Committee on African cottons for the purpose of fixing suitable standards for these growths. The Association asked the Technological Laboratory to help them in the matter of standards for staple length of these cottons. During the last 3 months nine samples of African cottons have been received and reported upon.

High Draft Spinning.—The results of high draft spinning employing three different systems of high drafts with mixtures of two Indian cottons, viz., Cambodia Co. 1 and C. P. (Wun) are now ready in the form of a Bulletin which will be published soon. Since the completion of these tests the equipment of the Spinning Laboratory has been strengthened by the addition of another ring frame kindly presented to the Laboratory by Messrs. Platt Bros., Oldham, through the courtesy of Messrs. Nowrosjee Wadia & Sons.

This ring frame has now been erected, the drive being provided by a one H. P. variable speed motor supplied by Messrs. Asea Electric Ltd. As soon as opportunity permits, it is proposed to continue further tests on high draft spinning employing the new ring frame in addition to the three old frames.

Combing of good quality Indian cottons.—In accordance with the programme of future work approved by the Committee at its last meeting the work of spinning combed good quality Indian cottons into finer counts has been taken in hand. The first cotton to be investigated was Punjab-American 289 F, which had shown a distinct improvement in the 1930-31 season. The tests are as yet in the preliminary stage but they have already shown that cottons possessing the fibre properties of P. A. 289F, 1930-31 season, can be spun without much difficulty into 60's counts when combed to the extent of 20 per cent. and into still finer counts when the proportion of comparatively shorter fibres removed by the combing machine is raised to the extent of 30 per cent. The comb waste was mixed with P. A. 4F in the proportion of 1 to 3 and spun into 16's and 20's yarns. The 20's yarns were somewhat below the necessary strength but with a suitable twist the 16's yarns would come up to the requisite strength. This work is now being extended to Cambodia 295, Surat 1027 A. L. F. and Nandyal 14.

Effect of Crighton speed on the blow-room loss and the quality of the yarn spun from a cotton.—These tests were made on particularly dirty samples of Mattia and Kalagin cottons, containing some 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. of foreign matter. The beater speeds ranged from 50 r. p. m. to 1,000 r. p. m. These tests have shown that as the beater speed is increased there is a small but progressive increase in the Crighton loss. The cleaning power obtained by the lowest speed, viz., 550 r. p. m. is unexpectedly high. It was felt that this was due to the relatively longer time for which the cotton remained under treatment in the Crighton Opener. This view has been corroborated by experiments in which two different fan speeds were used for the same beater speed of 950 r. p. m. The sample with the lower fan speed gave a higher Crighton loss. The tests are being continued.

Card settings.—The importance of correct card settings in determining the characteristics of the yarn spun from the cotton is well known. It is, however, reasonable to suppose that settings which may be suitable for a long and fine cotton may prove quite unfit for a short and coarse one. As the quality of the yarn depends, to an appreciable extent, upon the correctness of these settings with reference to the fibre properties of cotton, it was regarded highly desirable that a systematic work on the carding problems should be undertaken at the Technological Laboratory. The programme for this work was approved by the Committee and the work has since been started. In order to cover as wide a range as possible of the types of cotton which are used in Indian Mills the following three cottons have been selected for these experiments: Berars representing short staple, Dharwar-American representing medium staple, and A. R. Kampala representing long staple. The work is in progress.

II. RESEARCH LABORATORY.

Fibre Testing Section.—This section has been kept fully occupied with the determination of the fibre properties of the routine samples received for spinning tests, and with the tests on the large number of samples received specifically for fibre tests which are mentioned below. A number of additional tests on some of the cottons which gave anomalous results during the year are also being made with a view to find out if these anomalies can be explained in terms of properties other than those which are ordinarily determined. These tests are still in progress.

Special fibre tests.—Usually a small number of samples are received specially for fibre tests but during the 5 months under review there has been very considerable increase in the number of such samples. This increase is mainly due to the vigorous selection work going on at Parbhani, Hyderabad-Deccan, which contributed no less than 52 samples, each representing a distinct strain. Owing to the pressure of work it was found possible to test only 19 of these samples.

Mr. Hari Rao in addition to supervising the routine work of the Section has continued his experiments on the study of the effect of torsion on the length and strength of a cotton fibre.

Physics Section.

Mr. Kapadia in conjunction with Mr. R. P. Richardson, Spinning Master, is now engaged on the study of the effect of different card settings on the quality of the yarn to which reference has already been made. The work involves the determination of the fibre-properties of the different card wastes, of the regularity of the card sliver and of the properties of the yarn spun for a large number of samples given by the 3 different cottons.

Mr. Koshal is carrying on his investigation on the differences in fibre-length, fibre-weight per inch, and fibre-strength between fibres extracted from the base and the apex of a seed. He has now nearly completed six cottons and his results have shown that in the case of some cottons at least large differences may exist in the properties of fibres removed from the base and those removed from the apex. Apart from its practical bearing the results derived so far are of first class importance from the point of view of the development and structure of the fibre. Mr. Koshal is now undertaking a few more cottons in order to see if these differences have any relationship with the botanical species or seasonal variation of the cottons.

Mr. Srinagabhushana is carrying on his investigation on similar lines on the differences which have been found to exist in rigidity, ribbon-width and number of convolutions of fibres taken from the base and the apex of a seed. This work is supplementary to that of Mr. Koshal and when the two are completed it is hoped that the results will throw a great deal of light on the structure of the cotton fibre and its development with respect to the part of the seed on which it grows.

Chemistry Section.

Mr. Sen has devoted part of his time in completing the work on the moisture content of the bales of cotton pressed under known conditions of humidity and temperature. He has, in addition, determined the ash and wax content of the fibres from the base and apex of the seed for two cottons. His results have shown that whereas the wax-content of the apical fibres is greater than that of the basal fibres, the reverse is the case with the ash-content. This result has thrown open the possibility that this difference in the chemical constitution of the fibres is due to a difference in the constitution of the different parts of the seed. He is accordingly engaged in determining the wax-content and the ash-content of the two halves of the cotton seed.

Mr. Sen has furthermore undertaken an extension of the work on the spontaneous combustion of cotton which was done at the Laboratory some time ago. The plan of the work has been modified with a view to bring it more into line with the conditions as they actually prevail in the Bombay godowns. Small sample bales of cotton, dry, humid and damp, have been specially prepared for this purpose. Some of these bales contain half a per cent. of gummy bag or half a per cent. of unsaturated oils. Half of these bales will be kept in small pigeon holes, made of wire-gauze inside a room and the other half out in the open under the direct action of the sun. These two cases represent the conditions prevailing in the godowns and the *jathas*. A continuous record of minimum and maximum temperature in the two places will be maintained.

Mr. C. Nanjundayya is continuing his work on a study of variation in fibre strength with the length-grade of the cotton fibre. He has now completed 4 cottons and is extending his studies to other cottons. His results have shown that for all cottons as the length of the fibre increases its strength progressively diminishes. Although fibre-strength does not play so important a part in determining the spinning value of a cotton as fibre-length, yet in the selection of similar strains the question may arise as to how far it is justifiable to sacrifice strength for the sake of fibre-length. In furnishing an answer to this question Mr. Nanjundayya's results when completed will be extremely useful. He has further found that in the case of some cottons at least the interesting relationship holds that for a fairly wide range the product of fibre-strength and fibre-length is a constant. This relationship has an important bearing upon the structure of the cotton fibre as it shows that the fibre is much more uniform along its length than is generally supposed. He is pushing his investigation to see whether this relationship is confined to certain botanical species or whether it is valid for all cottons.

Microscopy Section.

Mr. Gulati has been engaged during the period under review in studying the effect of maturity of cotton fibre on its nepiness. He spent part of the time in improving the technique of the method so that the number of doubtful fibres should become too small to be of any importance. Mr. Gulati is now engaged in re-examining, with the improved method, the two dozen cottons selected for this purpose. It is proposed to supplement this work by making spinning tests on saw-ginned and roller-ginned samples of the same cottons. The gins for this purpose have already been acquired by the Laboratory and the tests will be made when the cottons of the next season are available.

comparable with the ordinary trade bales, it is proposed to extend the work already done by making further tests on samples drawn from bales of different growths which are received in Bombay. In addition to this work, moisture tests on 35 samples of cotton selected by the Appeal Committee of the East India Cotton Association were also made during the period under review.

IV. PUBLICATIONS.

The following is a list of the Bulletins and Technological Circulars issued during the period under review :—

Bulletins		Technological Circulars		Date of issue.
II. Technological Series A, No. 18—"Technological Reports on Standard Indian Cottons, 1931." (Summary given in the Annual Report 1931.)				
Technological Circulars .		Technological Circular.		
Cotton.				
Karunganni and Kurnool Cambodia cottons		52		June 1931.
Nandyal		53		June 1931.
Surat, Navsari and Cambodia		54		June 1931.
Dholera, Westons, Farn Westerns and Kumpta		55		July 1931.
A. R. Kampala, Busoga and Jinja cottons		56		August 1931.
Kalagin, Bijapore, and Bagalkote		57		August 1931.
Upland, Cambodia and Karunganni		58		August 1931.
Kadi Virangam & Tinnevely		59		August 1931.

V. GENERAL

Staff—Mr H. N. Dutt was on study leave from 4th August 1930 to 3rd May 1931. On his return to India he was suspended pending the decision of the Finance Sub-committee for gross disobedience and failure to submit reports of his work during leave. The Finance Sub Committee decided, on 29th August 1931, to terminate services.

Junior Testers—Mr S. Samson was appointed as a Junior Tester as from 25th 1931 in place of Mr P. H. Sharina who resigned his post to take up an appointment in Indian Railway Service. Owing to the pressure of work Messrs. K. S. Samant and Raghavan were appointed temporary Junior Testers for a period of three months 21st September 1931.

Alignment of machines—It was stated in the previous Progress Report that was taken of the temporary stoppage of work in the Blow room, during the variable speed motor to align all the machines in the blow room. During under review the fly frames and the ring frames which had been also affected by gradual sagging of the floor were properly aligned.

Equipment—Apparatus

(1) Yarn Examination machine with an automatic spreading motion. Messrs. Henry Baers for the purpose of winding yarns on the black card. These are preserved for future reference.

(2) *Air Ex. Humidifier*—this humidifier has been installed in one of the rooms of the Research Laboratory to meet the difficulty which often arose on account of the changes in humidity which forced the Research Assistants to temporarily suspend their work until suitable humidity was found to prevail again. With the help of this humidifier it will now be possible to maintain the humidity in the room at any desired value. The humidifier has been erected and is working in good order.

Machinery—*Ring frame* 45 sps fitted with the C. S. L. high draft system on one side and ordinary 3 line roller high draft system on the other side. Reference to it has already been made in the Section dealing with the Spinning Laboratory.

Patent type roller *Mc Arthur type* 22" x 22" wide with moving feed grid and buffis leather washer roller surfaces lined by Plate Brothers Ltd.

Hot Steam Gun with 16 x 6 x 8" diameter with condenser.

These two guns have been purchased in accordance with the decision of the Committee and in connection with the proposed work on impurities of cotton. These guns have been received and erected.

Address to staff—I wish to place on record my appreciation of the work of my staff who have continued to give me their loyal support and ready co-operation.

(Sd) NAZIR AHMAD,

Director,

Technological Laboratory

27th November, 1941

APPENDIX XIV

SUBJECT 15—*Technical Research*—*Report of the Technical Research Sub-Committee*

This Sub Committee met twice during the last six months, one special meeting having been called to discuss the report submitted by the Director, Technological Laboratory, on his tests on the moisture content of cotton. These tests were made on bales pressed in the factories under known conditions of temperature and humidity, but in order to complete them it is necessary to find out the percentage of moisture in trade bales as they arrive in Bombay from different parts of the country. This aspect of the work, is now being put in hand. The Sub Committee decided to send for the information of the East India Cotton Association a statement giving the results obtained, with a caution that no action regarding the normal moisture content of cotton should be arrived at until the tests had been completed. It was further decided that the final results should be printed in the form of a Technical Bulletin for distribution.

2. The Director's Progress Report for the five months ending 31st October was considered at the second meeting of the Sub Committee and approved. The total number of samples received for test continues to increase, an average of 20 a month having been received compared with 16 in the corresponding period last year. Two series of tests carried out during this period deserve special mention. Samples of *Karunganni* known to be adulterated with *Puhelan* cotton varying in amount from 15 to 21% were tested and the best samples were found to spin upto 16's counts only whereas pure *Karunganni*, on a seven years' average, has been found suitable for 21's standard warp counts. Mixtures of Punjab American 289F and 4F were also tested and it was found that on the average (very increase of 10%) 4F reduced the spinning value of the mixture by three standard warp counts. The Sub Committee is of opinion that if such information were to be generally known, it might be of use in checking mixing, and recommends that short pamphlets giving the above results and also the results previously found regarding known mixtures of 4F and *dezi* should be printed and distributed.

TECHNOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

Budget for 1925-26.

	Estimated Budget 1931-32	Revised Estimate 1931-32	Budget 1932-33
I. SUPERINTENDENCE			
1. Director (1,500 to 1,500)			
Salary	35,500	22,000	19,100
Provident Fund	2,078	1,811	1,591
2. Assistant Director (1,000 to 1,200)			
Salary	12,574	1,021	
Provident Fund	1,048	85	
Horse Rent Allowance	1000	250	
3. Office Clerks:			
(a) Salary (150 to 200)	2,150	2,150	2,270
Provident Fund	170	170	189
(a) Salary (120 to 150)	1,724	1,724	1,785
Provident Fund	111	111	119
(a) Salary (120 to 150)	1,150	1,150	1,510
Provident Fund	121	121	126
4. Contingencies:			
(a) Pay of memals	250	150	370
(b) Other contingencies	2,500	2,500	2,500
5. Temporary Establishment	500		500
6. Travelling Allowance	2,000	700	1,500
7. Publications—Printing	5,000	6,000	6,000
Total Rs.	74,100	40,511	37,570
II. SPINNING LABORATORY			
1. Spinning Master (950)			
Salary	11,948	11,400	11,100
Provident Fund	993	950	950
Furniture Allowance	200	200	200
2. Electrician (100 to 200)			
Salary	2,010	2,010	2,130
Provident Fund	167	167	177
3. Fitter-Jobber (130 to 200)			
Salary	2,010	2,010	2,160
Provident Fund	170	170	180
4. Clerk (104-1 130):			
Salary	1,256	1,256	1,304
Provident Fund	104	104	108
5. Contingencies:			
(a) Pay of Spinning Operatives	3,074	3,074	3,074
(b) Pay of other Memals	1,250	1,250	1,250
(c) Municipal Taxes	850	850	850
(d) Insurance	700	700	700
(e) Annual repairs and road maintenance	500	200	500
(f) Other contingencies	2,000	2,500	2,000
Total Rs.	27,254	26,871	26,984
III. RESEARCH AND TESTING LABORATORIES.			
1. Senior Research Assistant—Chemist:			
Salary (350 to 650)	5,900	5,900	6,200
Provident Fund	492	492	517
Carried over Rs.	6,392	6,392	6,717

	Sanctioned Budget 1931-32.	Revised Estimates 1931-32.	Budget 1932-33.
Brought forward Rs. ..	6,392	6,392	6,717
2. Senior Research Assistant— Assistant Technologist (350-25-650) Salary	1,200 100	5,150 429	5,450 454
3. Senior Research Assistants— Physicists (2)—350-25-650 : Salary Provident Fund	9,500 792	9,500 792	10,100 842
4. Junior Research Assistant— Physicist (250-25-350) : Salary Provident Fund	3,000 250	..	..
5. Junior Research Assistants (2) (250-25-350- 25-500) : Salary Provident Fund	9,990 833	5,790 456	6,740 562
6. Statistician (250-25-350-25-500) Salary Provident Fund	4,500 375	4,500 375	4,800 400
7. Temporary Research Assistants (2) Statistical Clerks (2) (90-10-150) : Salary Provident Fund	5,130	5,130	3,620
8. Junior Testers (15)—(90-10-150) : Salary Provident Fund	2,790 232	2,790 232	3,030 252
9. Instrument Maker (100-10-150) : Salary Provident Fund	23,103 1,925	23,103 1,925	23,960 1,997
10. Draughtsman (85-90-10-150) : Salary Provident Fund	1,800 150	1,800 150	1,800 150
11. Laboratory Keeper (80-5-120) Salary Provident Fund	1,730 144	1,730 144	1,800 150
12. Temporary Establishment Contingencies : (a) Pay of Menials (b) Municipal Taxes (c) Insurance (d) Library (e) Annual Repairs (f) Other contingencies (g) Apparatus	720 60	720 60	960 60 810
Total Rs. ..	88,456	88,456	87,728
IV. RESERVE.	5,000	5,000	5,000
1. Superintendence	71,199	40,511	3
II. Spinning Laboratory	27,254	26,871	2
III. Research and Testing Laboratories	88,456	82,728	8
IV. Reserve	5,000	1,50,110	1
GRAND TOTAL RS.	1,91,909	1,50,110	1

APPENDIX XV.

SUBJECT 19.—*Agricultural Research—Report of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee.*

The Sub-Committee considered interim Progress Reports on the following schemes which commenced work during the year :—

- (1) Surat Boll-worm Propaganda Scheme,
- (2) Madras Pomphores and Physiological Research Scheme,
- (3) Khandosh (Banilla) Cotton Seed Distribution Scheme,
- (4) Erection of a Ginnery at Lyallpur,
- (5) Sind Seed Distribution Scheme.

These reports were called for to keep the Sub-Committee in close touch with developments since the schemes commenced. A full report on each will be considered at the July meeting. The reports were approved.

2. The Sub-Committee considered a letter received from the Director of Agriculture, Madras, regarding an extension of one year to the scholarship period of two years given to Mr. T. R. Narayana Iyer who is now under training at Cambridge in Plant Physiology prior to his taking up the post of Physiologist under the Madras Pomphores and Physiological Scheme. The Sub-Committee considered an extension should be given provided Mr. Iyer's progress is satisfactory during the two years of his scholarship. It also suggests that Mr. Iyer should utilise his long vacations to study on the East Malling Fruit Station the physiological work being carried out there.

3. The Sub-Committee approved of the proposal of the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, to create permanent posts of Assistant Physiologist and Microscopist (combined) and one Laboratory Attendant for six months yearly for four years under the Punjab Botanical Research Scheme. Provision for these posts exists in the Budget and the appointments do not therefore entail an extra grant from the Committee.

4. The Agricultural Research Sub-Committee decided at its last meeting that the final decision regarding the Dharwar Cotton Wilt Research Scheme should be postponed until the present meeting. The Sub-Committee went carefully into the report submitted to the last meeting and decided that the scheme, as such, should close down at the end of the present cotton season. The Sub-Committee also recommends that the work of writing up for publication the results of the research should be undertaken by the Senior Officer in charge of the scheme and that a detailed study of them should be undertaken at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee recommends that a sum of Rs. 2,000 for working expenses for the period April and May 1932 and a further Rs. 4,000 for writing up the results should be earmarked for this scheme from the amount provisionally provided in the Budget.

5. The Sub-Committee considered and approved final reports submitted by Mr. R. N. Gidwani, Research Student, Bombay Presidency, and Mr. Srinagabhushana, Research Student, Technological Laboratory.

6. The Sub-Committee approved of the programme of work drawn up for the following research students :—

Mr. Bhola Nath, Research Student in Plant Breeding, Indore.

Mr. K. R. Dube, Research Student in Economics and Marketing, Nagpur.

It was also decided that Professor Radha Kamal Mukerji of Lucknow University should be asked to revise the programme of work submitted by him for Mr. Brajendra Nath Bhargava, Research Student in Cotton Marketing and Economics. The Director of Agriculture, Bombay, also agreed to draw up a fresh and simplified programme of work for Mr. B. S. Sheshgiri, Research Student in Economics and Marketing, Surat.

The Sub Committee recommends that the rules drawn up by the Punjab Government for the study of agriculture in foreign countries should be made applicable, with necessary modifications, to Mr Sant Singh Varma, who was awarded a foreign scholarship at the last meeting of the Committee

8 The Sub Committee recommends that as far as possible ex research students and servants of the Committee should replace on schemes financed by the Committee men lent from Provincial Departments of Agriculture and, secondly, that when now schemes are commenced consideration should be given to qualified and unemployed servants of the Committee or to those whose services are likely to be dispensed with by reason of the early closing down of the scheme on which they are working. It was further decided that a list giving full particulars of such employees should be circulated to all Directors of Agriculture in the hope they may be in a position to absorb them, and that the subject should again come before the Agricultural Research Sub Committee at its next meeting with a view to devising means for their employment either by scholarships or otherwise.

NEW SCHEMES PROPOSED.

9 The Sub Committee had before it proposals from the Director General of Commerce and Industry, H. E. H. the Nizam's Government, for the extension of Banilla seed in the district of Aurangabad and was of opinion that sufficient trials of Banilla cotton had not been carried out in Aurangabad District and suggests that further tests should be done for a period of two years before a scheme for seed distribution is considered.

10. In view of the absence of Mr. Pandya, consideration of the seed extension scheme for Gwalior was postponed till the July meeting

11 The Sub Committee recommends the extension for two years of the Surat Seed Distribution Scheme which was sanctioned in 1929 for two years in the first place pending a decision regarding the type of cotton to be grown in the Surat District. As a decision on this point has been postponed for two years, the Sub Committee is of opinion that the distribution of 1927 A. L. F. seed should not be stopped in the meantime. The cost will amount to Rs. 7,800 in the first year and Rs. 7,860 in the second year

12 The Sub Committee considered fresh estimates for the Athani Cotton Seed Distribution and Extension Scheme which was sanctioned in 1929 but has been held in abeyance since then. The Director of Agriculture wishes to start this scheme in 1932 and submitted fresh proposals. These were carefully gone into by the Sub Committee and approved. They entail an expenditure of Rs. 49,757 over a period of five years

13 The sanctioned period of the Sind Physiological Research Scheme ends in July 1932. The final report on the work will be laid before the monsoon meeting when the question of an extension will also be considered. As it is most undesirable that there should be any break in the work, the Sub Committee recommends that a lump sum of Rs. 25,000 be provided in the Budget for 1932-33 pending the decision of the Central Cotton Committee regarding the future of the Research Scheme

14 The Sub Committee approved of the Revised Budget for the Surat Physiological Scheme, which, it was decided at the last meeting of the Sub Committee, should close down at the end of the present cotton growing season and the year 1932-33 should be utilised to write up for publication the results of the investigation. The Revised Budget amounts to Rs. 27,613 for the period 1st April 1932 till the end of July 1933 while the previous total was Rs. 33,755

15 The Sub Committee approved of the Budget, amounting to Rs. 2,420, submitted by the Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency, for writing up the work of the Surat Entomological Research Scheme which closed down in March 1931. At its previous meeting, the Sub Committee recommended that the Senior Assistant in charge of the scheme should be put on special duty to collect and make ready for publication all the data collected during the eight years of the investigation.

16. At the 1930 monsoon meeting of the Agricultural Research Sub-Committee, the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, was asked to put up proposals for an extensive campaign of clean-up measures to eliminate the Earia Boll-worm in the Surat area. Owing to the political situation in Gujerat, Mr. Main had to modify his original scheme and the Committee sanctioned funds for active propaganda in the area during the present year preparatory to launching the clean-up scheme. Mr. Main placed before the meeting of the Sub-Committee his proposals to give effect to the Committee's intention conveyed above. These were carefully considered and the Sub-Committee recommends that the estimated net cost amounting to Rs. 31,610 should be sanctioned. It also recommends that a further sum of Rs. 20,000 should be placed at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture to be used by him in case of necessity for direct action for the cleaning up of cotton stubbles in neglected fields. The scheme consists in getting cultivators to uproot and destroy all cotton sticks over an area of about 480 sq. miles so as to prevent the carry over of the boll-worm from season to season.

17. The last meeting of the Sub-Committee recommended that the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, should, in consultation with his Government, put up fresh proposals to the Central Cotton Committee regarding the co-ordination of cotton research in the Bombay Presidency as the previous terms offered had failed to attract a suitable officer. Mr. Main's new proposals were considered by the Sub-Committee which recommends that they be accepted. They are that the salary should be Rs. 1,100-50-1,300 basic pay and overseas pay of £30 per mensem, the latter to be given in the event of an officer of non-Indian domicile being appointed; the appointment to be for five years with no commitments thereafter. The selection of the officer will be entrusted to the Committee as required by Rule 9 (1) (a) of the Cotton Cess Rules.

18. Three new cotton breeding schemes for Bombay Presidency were placed by the Director of Agriculture before the last meeting of the Sub-Committee which recommended that "as the success of these schemes will depend to a considerable extent on the supervision given, the sanction of the Central Cotton Committee should be withheld until a Co-ordinating Botanist for Bombay Presidency is appointed." The Sub-Committee considered at this meeting a letter from the Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency, asking that the schemes should be re-considered in view of the urgency of the work and the fact that the appointment of a Botanist was doubtful. In view of its recommendation on the subject of a Co-ordinating Botanist for Bombay Presidency given above, the Sub-Committee now recommends that the Central Cotton Committee should finance the following two Cotton Breeding Schemes in the Bombay Presidency for five years at a yearly estimated cost of Rs. 13,000 for the Broach Tract and Rs. 7,000 for the Jalgaon Tract, the Government of Bombay supplying the officer in the latter case. The intention of the first scheme is to produce a wilt resistant cotton of high ginning percentage and good fibre for the newly constituted Norbudda-Mahi protected zone under the Cotton Transport Act. In the Jalgaon Tract, the object is to procure by breeding a high-yielding wilt-resistant, good spinning cotton to replace Banilla.

19. The Sub-Committee also considered a scheme submitted by the United Provinces Government asking for a grant of Rs. 12,660 spread over a period of two years to provide the necessary staff to undertake an investigation into the cost of growing and marketing cotton in the United Provinces. The Sub-Committee is of opinion that as the question of investigating costings of cotton growing is under discussion between the Central Cotton Committee and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, consideration of this scheme should be deferred until a decision is arrived at.

20. The Director of Agriculture, Baroda State, submitted proposals for the employment of staff to give a thorough test to 1027 A. L. F. and 1A in Navsari District which were estimated at Rs. 1,700. The Sub-Committee approved of the principle underlying his proposals but considered they were inadequate considering the importance of the work to be done and recommends that the Committee should pay the salary of a good Agricultural Assistant and the necessary contingencies, details of which should be submitted for sanction to the Standing Finance Sub-Committee.

21. The Sub-Committee received for consideration from the United Provinces Government proposals for the extension of the results of the United Provinces Pink Boll-worm investigation, which entail new expenditure of Rs. 3,35,000 over a period of

provision for machinery at a maximum cost of Rs 6½ lakhs. The Sub Committee is convinced that the data collected throughout the investigation prove conclusively that heat treatment of seed will effectively control the incidence of Pink Boll worm in the United Provinces, and in view of the great loss which is now being experienced both by the grower of cotton and the trade through Pink Boll worm attack, the Sub Committee considers that the work should be pressed to the next stage of development which is outlined in the scheme. The Sub Committee approves of the scheme in general and recommends that provision should be made for the recurring expenditure amounting to Rs 3,37,000. The Sub Committee further recommends that the capital outlay should be repaid within a definite period, to be decided on. The Agricultural Research Sub Committee makes the following recommendations on the understanding that the United Provinces Government will accept responsibility for the repayment of the loan and for continuity of work on the scheme and will, as promised, endeavour to introduce any legislation that may be necessary. The Sub Committee further recommends that a Special Sub Committee should be formed consisting of the following members of the Agricultural Research Sub Committee—

Sir Joseph A. Kay,

Mr B. C. Burt,

Mr D. Milne and

Mr Chundil B. Mehta

to meet the authorised representatives of the United Provinces Government and trade interests in the United Provinces to negotiate with the former on the lines of this report

[The report was adopted by the Central Cotton Committee subject to the amendment of para 21 on the lines of the discussion under this subject—vide page 35]

APPENDIX XVI

STRUCTURE 20 Institute of Plant Industry, Indore—Policy to be followed Secretary's Note

At its last meeting the Committee considered a report by Dr B. A. Keen, Director of the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research, Pune, on the Institute of Plant Industry, Indore. After a short discussion, it was decided to postpone further consideration to this meeting, in order to give the new Director, Mr T. K. Jackson, an opportunity of acquainting himself with the work being done there and in order that the Committee might have the benefit of his views on the future policy to be followed at the Institute. Copies* of Dr Keen's Report and of the discussion at the last meeting are attached for ready reference.

2 In order to acquaint recently joined members of the Committee with the history of the Indore Institute, a short précis is given below.

3 In 1922, the Committee resolved that a Central Agricultural Institute for cotton research in some form or another was essential and it decided to recommend to the Government of India that it should be permitted to contribute from its funds to the proposed Plant Breeding Institute at Indore which was then under consideration. The original scheme contemplated a general institute for plant industry to which a number of the Central India States and the Government of India were to contribute jointly. Owing to financial stringency in the Government of India this scheme had to be dropped and in 1923 the Committee approved of and finally received the sanction of the Government of India to a revised scheme for an Institute to be devoted principally to cotton investigations. At the 4th meeting of the Agricultural Research Sub Committee held in

February 1923, it was resolved that "a recurring grant-in-aid for five years and a non-recurring grant for Capital Expenditure should be given for the establishment of an Institute at Indore for cotton research. The Institute should be established essentially for research work on cotton and all other investigations should be entirely subsidiary". The grants sanctioned were Rs. 1,60,000 in the first year and Rs. 40,000 in the second year for Capital Expenditure and for working expenses Rs. 80,000 in the first year and Rs. 70,000 in the second and third years. In the words of the report "from the third year, the receipts of the Institute will be appreciable and the Sub-Committee consider that all such receipts should be utilized by the Institute for its maintenance. This would enable the amount of the Central Cotton Committee's contribution to be reconsidered at the end of three years." This sum of Rs. 80,000 per annum was subsequently raised to Rs. 1 lakh because the Government of India declined to waive the leave and pension contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Howard and because two Indian States at the last moment refused to become contributors. In addition to the original grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for Capital Expenditure, the Committee provided an extra sum of Rs. 33,333 in January 1927 for the completion of roads and buildings on the farm. The balance of the recurring grant for four years totalling a sum of Rs. 50,203 was also transferred to the Capital grant. At the December 1927 meeting, the recurring grant for 1928-29 was increased to Rs. 1,30,000 and for subsequent years to Rs. 1,15,000 which is the Committee's present contribution. The rest of the Institute to the Committee from the date of its inception to the end of March of this year therefore amounts to:—

Capital Expenditure	..	Rs. 2,83,536.
Recurring ..	..	Rs. 6,61,110.

4. The programme of investigations on cotton which received the approval of the Central Cotton Committee in 1923 and for which the Institute was started is as given below:—

"The Central India Agency includes two distinct cotton tracts: (a) the Malwa plateau (a long staple area) in which the types like Cambodia have a conditions and (b) the low-lying staple cotton of the *Roseum* type is the rule. found and where improved results under cultivators' Central Provinces where short

The aim of the Indore Institute (as regards cotton investigations) is to provide a centre of research for the black soil tracts. At this centre any problems suggested, either by the Central Cotton Committee or by other workers in India can be taken up. A special effort will be made to create a good library dealing with the various aspects of cotton production for the use not only of workers at the Institute itself but also of other investigators on cotton in India.

While the Institute will always be prepared to consider any useful suggestions as regards problems to be investigated, the following preliminary programme is put forward. This falls into four parts

(a) **BOTANICAL SURVEY.**—Up to the present, little or no attempt has been made in India to isolate, classify and study the unit species which form the framework of the various species and varieties of cotton found on the black soils. It is true that the Indian cottons have been classified and surveyed from the point of view of systematic botany, but this is entirely inadequate for modern work as by this method cottons of very different agricultural value are not distinguished. The work needs to be carried much further and nothing short of the isolation and study of the unit species will meet the case. This work has a direct practical bearing. It will, in all probability, lead to the isolation of useful types for distribution. It will also provide material for the plant breeder and for critical work on the physiology and agronomy of cotton.

(b) **PLANT BREEDING.**—Two main practical problems will be taken up at once:—

- (1) the creation, establishment and maintenance of an island of long staple cotton on the Malwa plateau. The types isolated will be available for other areas in India and the crop will enable a grade of improved cotton to be established for the mills and for the shippers;
- (2) the improvement of the fibre of the hardy *Roseum* type which is, in all other respects, admirably suited for the low-lying areas of Central India.

In the solution of these questions the inheritance of characters will have to be studied. The results will apply not only locally but will also be of general interest.

(c) *THE PHYSIOLOGY OF THE COTTON CROP*.—In order to increase production something more than improved varieties is needed. The new varieties must be provided with suitable conditions for growth. To discover these the physiology of the cotton plant must be studied and the factors which now limit production must be determined. This involves the study of root development, the relations of the root system to the soil type and the influence of factors such as soil moisture, soil aeration and drainage, soil texture and soil temperature on growth. Included in these studies is the discovery of factors which produce the shedding of buds, flowers and bolls. During the course of these physiological studies, the general nutrition of the cotton plant will be considered and how far the yield can be improved by manuring and other methods of soil treatment.

(d) *THE INFLUENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS ON THE LINT CHARACTERS*.—Modern industries demand a uniform product. Once this is obtained the purchase of raw material as well as the details of manufacture are simplified. In the case of cotton, any tract which can produce uniform lint will rapidly establish its reputation in the trade. It is well known, however, that the cotton fibre alters in character according to the soil on which it grows and to some extent according to the season. Further work is desirable on this matter with the object of discovering what factors bring about these changes, which varieties are most easily affected and whether any practical remedies exist for improving the uniformity of the fibre of the same cotton. This portion of the work is of direct bearing on the question of the maintenance of grades of cotton for the highest class of spinning in this country."

5. In his report, Dr. Keen states that the problems attacked to-date have centred round some actual agricultural operation or process though some of the work fell into the scientific rather than the practical sphere e.g., plant breeding and physiological studies of cotton. He also gives it as his opinion that the Institute must continue as a demonstration and extension centre and that there should be no idea of initiating fundamental research there.

6. There may be a certain amount of confusion regarding the interpretation of the word 'fundamental' when applied to 'research.' I interpret the Committee's idea of "fundamental research on cotton" as investigations and experiments carried out to give us a thorough and complete knowledge of the Indian cotton plant—physiological, ecological, genetical etc.—and any other problems concerning cotton which can best be tackled at a central institute. In fact, the Committee's interpretation of 'fundamental research' was conveyed in the programme of work sanctioned in 1923 for the Indore Institute. Dr. Keen apparently does not wish even this work to be attempted for he says the Institute should continue as a demonstration and extension centre—not even an experimental centre—and the scientific staff should be analysts and routine workers rather than research specialists.

7. The Committee has first to decide whether it wishes the Indore Institute to be merely a demonstration and extension centre or whether it should carry out research work.

(2) If the latter, is the Committee satisfied with the programme of work laid down in 1923? If not, what alterations should be made in it?

8. The Board of Governors of the Institute will meet at Indore in January and the Committee's views will be considered at that meeting. If it is decided that fundamental research work should be carried out, Mr. Jackson will have to overhaul his present staff and decide whether they are capable of carrying on the work under the new conditions. Extra staff will probably be necessary but this is a matter with which the Board of Governors must deal.

9. In conclusion, I would suggest that the amount of the Committee's contribution to the Institute should be reviewed at next July's meeting when the Director has formulated his plans for staff and equipment.

7. We considered a letter from the Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore, asking for the Sub Committee's approval to transfer a sum of Rs. 15,000 from the balance left unspent in the accounts of the Institute towards the cost of building a permanent camp for cultivators visiting the Institute. We decided that as Mr. Howard had already been refused a grant for this purpose by the Committee, we had no power to overrule that decision but that Mr. Jackson could again bring the subject up before the Committee if he failed to collect the necessary money from the contributing States.

8. We sanctioned an extra allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem to Mr. Md. Afzal who was appointed to take charge of the Punjab Botanical Research Scheme on the departure of Mr. Trought. This allowance will cease when a successor to Mr. Trought takes over charge.

9. We sanctioned the utilisation by the Entomologist to Government of the balance amounting to Rs. 2,026-15-3 under the United Provinces Entomological Scheme for the purpose of demonstration or for further experiments and for dismantling the machinery on the completion of the work.

10. We decided to recommend to all Directors of Agriculture and those responsible for the conduct of the Committee's Research Schemes that we should follow the lead given by the Government of India in the matter of a cut in the salaries of its servants. We decided on this step because the Committee is a Semi-Government body in charge of Trust Funds and because we considered it unfair that some of the Committee's servants, viz., those lent by Local Governments, should suffer the cut while others should not. We also consider that the same principle should apply to those of our servants working in Indian States even though no cut has been made there. This is in order to ensure uniformity throughout.

11. We considered a letter received through the Government of India from a non-official member asking for a revision of the halting allowance permissible to members when attending meetings of the Committee and we decided not to suggest any alterations in the existing rules.

12. We decided to recommend to the Government of India that the probationary period of Mr. Rama Reddi, the Deputy Secretary, should be extended for a period of six months as during the year he was absent on leave and on deputation for a period of seven months.

13. We considered a letter from the Director of Agriculture, Punjab, asking for the provision of Mukhadams for the two Research Scholars employed on Economics and Marketing Enquiries, but decided that there should be no change in the Committee's policy in this respect and the request was refused.

14. We also considered a request from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Central Provinces asking the Committee to invest some of its funds in the Central Provinces Provincial Co-operative Bank, but were compelled to refuse the request as even the Government of India itself had no power, without obtaining the permission of the Legislative Assembly, to extend the list of Banks in which Trust Funds can be invested.

15. We agreed to fix the salary of the Botanist for the Punjab Botanical Research Scheme, sanction for which was accorded at the last meeting of the Committee, at Rs. 1,100 50-1, 300 basic pay and overseas pay at £30 p.m., the latter to be given if the candidate selected is of non-Asiatic domicile.

16. We recommend that Messrs. S. B. Billmoria & Co., be reappointed auditors for the Committee's accounts for the year 1932-33 at a remuneration of Rs. 1,000 per year.

17. We sanctioned for the Technological Laboratory expenditure amounting to Rs. 1,636 12-0 for two hand guns and for a 1 H. P. motor for the Platt Bros. Riag Frame presented to the Laboratory by Messrs. Nowrosji Wadia & Sons to be met from the balance under the Capital grant for the Technological Laboratory.

18. The Committee's representatives on the Governing Body of the Indore Institute referred to the Standing Finance Sub Committee a letter received from the Director, Institute of Plant Industry, Indore, asking for the utilisation of Rs. 40,000 lying in balance in the Institute's current account towards the construction of quarters for the staff. Up to date free quarters for the staff were provided in the Thuggi Jail, but these are now required by the State. We decided to recommend to the Board of Governors that an investigation should be made into the estimate of cost which appeared to be high and in the event of quarters being constructed rent at the rate of 10% of the occupants' salary should be recovered from them.

Balance Sheet as at 30th September 1931.

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RECEIPTS.		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cotton Cess Receipts	77,81,174	2	10	11,21,110	15	6
Interest account—					72,739	17	7
Amount received on investment	.. .. .	9,68,671	0	0			
Add—Refund of income-tax deducted on interest	.. .. .	11,626	1	0			
Less—		9,80,300	1	0			
(1) Interest paid in advance at the time of purchasing Government Securities (since recovered) and Bank's commission	.. .. .	10,152	1	5			
(2) Income tax deducted on interest	.. .. .	17,58	5	0			
(3) Interest credited to the Committee's Provident Fund Account	.. .. .	1,886	6	2			
(4) Bank's withdrawal charges for securities sold	.. .. .	1,690	8	0			
(5) Provision for Sinking Fund	.. .. .	1,735	7	0			
		66,019	11	7			
Carried over	.. .. .	89,03,124	8	9			
Total							
RECEIPTS.		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cotton Cess Receipts	.. .. .	77,81,174	2	10	11,21,110	15	6
Interest account—					72,739	17	7
Amount received on investment	.. .. .	9,68,671	0	0			
Add—Refund of income-tax deducted on interest	.. .. .	11,626	1	0			
Less—		9,80,300	1	0			
(1) Interest paid in advance at the time of purchasing Government Securities (since recovered) and Bank's commission	.. .. .	10,152	1	5			
(2) Income tax deducted on interest	.. .. .	17,58	5	0			
(3) Interest credited to the Committee's Provident Fund Account	.. .. .	1,886	6	2			
(4) Bank's withdrawal charges for securities sold	.. .. .	1,690	8	0			
(5) Provision for Sinking Fund	.. .. .	1,735	7	0			
		66,019	11	7			
Carried over	.. .. .	89,03,124	8	9			
Total							

II. TECHNICAL RESERVE

(1) Technical Reserve							
A. Capital Expenditure							
(i) Lands and Buildings	.. .. .	3,55,797	9	11			
(ii) Machinery	.. .. .	83,023	10	1			
(iii) Furniture	.. .. .	7,502	2	8			
(iv) Apparatus and Equipment	.. .. .	41,558	3	7			
(v) Machinery Workshop	.. .. .	5,750	8	3			
B. Working Expenses		9,90,672	14	2			
(2) Provision	.. .. .	21,082	6	0			
		13,06,325	6	8			
Carried over	.. .. .	1,89,051	13	9			
Total		39,67,228	14	11			

Brought forward		Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.
Profit on conversion of 6% Tax Free Bonds into 5% Taxable Loan		56,05,424	8 9	30,07,228	11 11
Sinking Fund Account		1,735	7 0		
Miscellaneous Receipts		12,415	1 11		
Suspense Receipt—					
Amount received from Dh. Pendleton for supply of cotton seeds		25	0 0		
Less—Charges paid for seeds		5	12 0		
Grand Total		87,14,625	5 8		
Brought forward		Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH GRANTS—					
Bombay—					
IV.	(a) Surat Physiological	5,000	0 0	2,12,204	10 9
	(b) (i) Surat Boll-worm Research	1,735	7 0	1,15,721	6 8
	(ii) Surat Boll-worm Pro. paranda	12,415	1 11	18,729	9 0
	(c) Dharwar Wilt			1,70,537	7 7
	(d) Khandesh Cotton Breeding			24,177	8 0
	(e) Co-ordination of Cotton Research			314	4 0
Madras—					
V.	(a) Horbaccum	25	0 0	80,964	9 5
	(b) Pemphores & Physiological	5	12 0	2,927	12 7
	(c) Fodder Cholam			2,264	10 0
Punjab—					
VI.	(a) Botanical	19	4 0	3,28,342	13 5
	(b) Entomological			91,942	10 4
	(c) White Fly			5,240	10 0
Central Provinces				2,28,423	15 1
United Provinces				1,20,373	11 3
Institute of Plant Industry, Indore				10,06,343	12 0
Sind				95,921	6 3
Burma—					
XI.	(a) Capital			2,906	15 5
	(b) Cotton Improvement			4,074	12 0
Hyderabad—				53,736	6 5
XII.	(a) Botanical			1,580	0 0
XIII.	(b) Cotton Survey			19,141	0 0
Bikaner					
XIV.	Baroda Root Rot				
Leans Recoverable n/o				25,94,899	14 2
Suspense n/o				12,805	0 0
By Balance				2,167	4 0
Grand Total		87,14,625	5 8	30,97,521	1 7
Grand Total				87,14,625	5 8

Balance Sheet as at September 30th 1931.

Provident Fund Account.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE AND INVESTMENTS.			Market rate.	Market value. Rs. a. p.
	Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.		
Subscribers' contributions	83,399	3 5	By expenses for withdrawal charges for securities transferred to I. C. C. O. a/o P. F.	171	10 0		
Less.—Refunds to subscribers resigned	12,250	12 1	Cost of printing Provident Fund forms	8	8 0		
				180	2 0		
Committee's contributions	71,674	10 8					
Less.—Payments to subscribers resigned.	10,304	4 7					
Recoveries against advances			<i>By Balance as under.—</i>				
Interest received on investments, 1931-32	1,903	7 5	<i>Face value.</i>				
Interest received on advances	8	2 0	(1) 3½% G. P. Notes .. Rs. 85,600	59,754	3 1	52/8	44,910 0 0
			(2) 5% 1939/44 Taxable Loan	25,600	15 6	86	22,016 0 0
			(3) 6% 1933/36 Taxable Loan	20,900	2 0	90	28,704 0 0
			(4) 4% 1934/37 Taxable Loan	2,000	0 0	86	1,720 0 0
				1,16,181	4 7		97,380 0 0
<i>Deductions.</i>							
(1) Advances made to date	16,636	2 0	Fixed deposit with the P. & O. Banking Corporation due 11-11-31 @5%	7,900	0 0		Depreciation loss thereon is Rs. 18,801-4-7
(2) Interest credited to subscribers' a/c up to 31-3-31	1,696	14 0	Balance in current a/c with the Imperial Bank of India on 30-9-31	1,289	9 6		
(3) Interest paid to subscribers resigned this year	2,681	10 6					
Carried over..	21,014	10 6	Carried over ..	1,24,651	0 1		

Rs. a. p.
Brought forward.. 1,24,651 0 1

Rs. a. p.
21,011 10 6 1,45,829 11 10

Brought forward..

- (4) Advance interest
paid for Govern-
ment Paper pur-
chased during this
year
(5) Income tax deducted
from Interest on
Government Paper
purchased
year
(6) Bank's Commission
and cost of
stamps

139 4 9

20 11 6

4 1 0

21,178 11 9

1,24,651

0 1

1,24,651 0 1

[illegible]

† Net from savings of past years.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
Brought forward ..			Brought forward ..		
Ra. a. p. 38,00,250 3 8			Ra. 6,14,251		
Agricultural Research Grants.			Agricultural Research Grants.		
IV. Bombay :-			IV. Bombay :-		
(a) Surat Boll-worm Propaganda ..			(a) Surat Boll-worm Propaganda ..		
(b) Dharwar Cotton Breeding ..			(b) Dharwar Cotton Breeding ..		
(c) Khandesh Cotton of Cotton Research ..			(c) Khandesh Cotton of Cotton Research ..		
(d) Co-ordination of Cotton Research ..			(d) Co-ordination of Cotton Research ..		
(e) Madras :-			(e) Madras :-		
(a) Herbaceous and Physiological ..			(a) Herbaceous and Physiological ..		
(b) Pomphora and Recurring ..			(b) Pomphora and Recurring ..		
(c) Fodder Cholera—Non-recurring ..			(c) Fodder Cholera—Non-recurring ..		
V. Punjab :-			V. Punjab :-		
(a) Botanical-Working Expenses ..			(a) Botanical-Working Expenses ..		
(b) Entomological ..			(b) Entomological ..		
(c) White Fly ..			(c) White Fly ..		
(d) Central Provinces :-			(d) Central Provinces :-		
United Provinces grant for staff ..			United Provinces grant for staff ..		
VII. Recurring grant for staff ..			VII. Recurring grant for staff ..		
VIII. Recurring of Plant Industry, Indore ..			VIII. Recurring of Plant Industry, Indore ..		
IX. Institute of Plant Industry ..			IX. Institute of Plant Industry ..		
X. Sind ..			X. Sind ..		
XI. Burma-Cotton :-			XI. Burma-Cotton :-		
Hyderabad :-			Hyderabad :-		
(a) Botanical Survey ..			(a) Botanical Survey ..		
(b) Cotton Working Expenses ..			(b) Cotton Working Expenses ..		
(c) Bikaner-Root Rot ..			(c) Bikaner-Root Rot ..		
XIII. Baredo-Root Rot ..			XIII. Baredo-Root Rot ..		
Total Expenditure ..			Total Expenditure ..		
XIV. Loans recoverable (but considered doubtful). ..			XIV. Loans recoverable (but considered doubtful). ..		
XV. Gadag ..			XV. Gadag ..		
Grand Total ..			Grand Total ..		
Ra. a. p. 38,00,250 3 8			Ra. 6,14,251		
Brought forward ..			Brought forward ..		
Ra. a. p. 38,00,250 3 8			Ra. 6,14,251		
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Brought forward ..			Brought forward ..		
Ra. a. p. 38,00,250 3 8			Ra. 6,14,251		
Brought forward ..			Brought forward ..		
Ra. a. p. 38,00,250 3 8			Ra. 6,14,251		
Brought forward ..</					

REVISED ESTIMATES, 1931-32.

Provident Fund Account.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Rs. a p.		Rs. a. p.
To Opening Balance as on 1-4-31 ..	1,34,415 5 0	By payment to subscribers (resigned) of their amount together with the Committee's contribution and interest	50,256 0 0
Subscribers' contributions ..	19,450 0 0	By refunds to Indian Central Cotton Committee of the Committee's contributions disallowed to subscribers resigned.. .. .	2,900 0 0
Committee's contribution ..	19,450 0 0	By expenditure for withdrawal of securities for transfer from Trustees' names to the Committee P. F. account and for stationery (printing of books and forms)	195 0 0
Recoveries against advances ..	6,500 0 0	By Balance	1,33,264 5 0
Interest receivable	6,800 0 0	Grand Total ..	1,86,675 5 0
Grand Total ..	1,86,675 5 0		

BUDGET, 1932-33—ALL HEADS.

[illegible]

Ra.	a. p.
V. Madras:—	
(a) Horticulture	9,200 0 0
(b) Entomology and Physiological	22,400 0 0
(c) Toller Cholam—Recurring	1,644 0 0
VI Punjab:—	
(a) Botanical—Working Expenses	59,790 0 0
(b) Entomological	18,500 0 0
(c) White Fly	11,140 0 0
VII. Central Provinces	46,119 0 0
VIII. United Provinces—Recurring grant for staff	4,269 0 0
IX. Institute of Plant Industry, Indore	1,00,000 0 0
X. Sind	25,000 0 0
XI. Burma—Cotton Improvement	6,408 0 0
XII. Hyderabad:—	
(a) Botanical	26,402 0 0
(b) Cotton Survey	5,000 0 0
XIII. Bikaner—Working Expenses	7,640 0 0
XIV. Baroda (a) Root Rot	8,860 0 0
(b) Comparative tests of 1027 and 1 A cottons	1,700 0 0
Total Expenditure .. 10,00,084 0 0	
XV. Loans repayable but considered doubtful:—	
Hubli Rs. 5,513 0 0	
Gadag Rs. 7,292 0 0	12,805 0 0
By Balance	27,37,757 7 8
Grand Total	37,50,646 7 8

BUDGET, 1932-33—ALL HEADS.

Provident Fund Account.

	Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.
To Opening Balance as on 1-4-32	1,33,264	3 0	By Balance ..	1,67,575	5 0
Subscribers' contributions ..	16,420	0 0			
Committee's contributions ..	16,420	0 0			
Recoveries against advances ..	1,471	0 0			
Total ..	1,67,575	3 0	Total ..	1,67,575	5 0

APPENDIX XVIII.

SUBJECT 22—*Provincial Cotton Committees—Abolition of the United Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee—Note by Secretary*

At its 67th meeting held in August 1931, the Local Sub Committee considered a copy of a letter received from the United Provinces Government to the Director of Agriculture stating that in view of the imperative need for economy, the Government had decided not to reconstitute for the present the Provincial Cotton Committee the term of which expired in May 1930. The Local Sub Committee decided that as these Provincial Cotton Committees were capable of performing very useful work, the question should come up for a general discussion at this meeting of the Central Cotton Committee to see if some enthusiasm could not be instilled into them.

The decision of the United Provinces Government seems to be at variance with their intentions because from the Report of the Upper India Chamber of Commerce, I find that that body had been consulted, the Government proposing provisionally to reconstitute the Committee for a further period of 2 years in order to see whether greater interest was taken in its proceedings. Government considered that two meetings a year should be held at Cawnpore.

In 1924, the United Provinces Government arrived at a similar decision but on a reference from the Upper India Chamber of Commerce, the Central Cotton Committee passed a resolution endorsing the letter sent to the United Provinces Government by the Upper India Chamber of Commerce protesting against the abolition of the Provincial Cotton Committee and the United Provinces Government reconstituted it.

The MacKenzie Committee of 1919 made the following recommendation regarding the Provincial and Local Cotton Committees and amplified this in para 26 of their report:—

'In order to carry out its functions, the Committee would deal through and with Provincial Committees and local sub-committees. Such Committees, would be formed in all the provinces in which cotton is grown except Bihar and Orissa and Assam. In view of the special circumstances of Burma, the Provincial Committee in that province would be the advisory body in regard to the licensing of ginning and pressing factories.'

Para 267—'To enable the Central Committee to keep in touch with what is happening in the various provinces, we regard it as necessary that it should work through and with Provincial Committees and local sub-committees. The main functions of these committees would be to provide the Central Committee with full information in regard to all points with which the latter was concerned and to investigate complaints in regard to malpractices in ginning and pressing factories in accordance with the scheme we have proposed in Chapter XVI. The Provincial Committee should, in our opinion, consist of representatives of all branches of the cotton industry as well as of the Agricultural Department. The number of members might vary according to the circumstances of the individual provinces but should not be less than five or more than nine and the Director of Agriculture would be a suitable chairman. The local sub-committees should be formed in suitable centres at the discretion of the Provincial Committee and their composition should follow the line of the latter, though the number of members would, as a rule, be smaller and should not be less than three or more than five. The Deputy Director of Agriculture should invariably be an ex officio member of all the sub-committees formed in his circle. Any expenditure incurred by the Provincial or local committees shall be met by a grant from the funds of the Central Committee.'

We would add that, in present conditions, the formation of Provincial and local committees is not necessary in Bihar and Orissa and Assam, where cotton is an unimportant crop and there are no ginning or pressing factories. Although we have not provided for the direct representation of Bengal, the North Western Provinces, Ajmer Merwara and Delhi on the Central Committee, we think it desirable that Provincial Committees, which would work on the same line as elsewhere, should be formed in those provinces though it may not be necessary to have local sub-committees in addition. In view of the difficulty in regard to delegates, we have also not provided for the representation of Burma on the Central Committee though we think it

the area under cotton in Burma increases, such representation would be advantageous it would enable the Agricultural Department of that province to get the benefit of Indian experience. We are of opinion that it is desirable that our recommendations in regard to the licensing of gins and presses should apply to Burma and that a Provincial Committee should be the body which should deal finally with complaints in regard to malpractices in gins and presses and should, if necessary, recommend the withdrawal of licenses to the Local Government. We see, however, no reason why, in regard to most of the other functions of the Central Committee, the Provincial Committee in Burma should not work in conjunction with it.

As we have already stated, the functions we have assigned to the Central Committee are almost entirely advisory. We should, perhaps, here mention that we circulated confidentially to Directors of Agriculture, and leading associations and individuals connected with the cotton trade, a scheme differing somewhat in essentials from that outlined above and that the proposals now put forward have been formulated after careful consideration of the valuable criticisms received. It was represented to us in some quarters to the opinion of which we attach great weight, that the functions of the Committee should be executive as well as advisory, that it should, in short, dictate the policy which should be followed in the licensing of gins and presses. Whilst we fully recognize the force of the arguments in support of this view, we have been unable to accept it as we consider that the difficulties in the way of entrusting executive functions to the Central Committee are insuperable. In the first instance, such a course might make it difficult, if not impossible, to secure the co-operation of the Native States in carrying out our recommendations, a point to which, as already stated, we attached very great importance. The second difficulty we feel is that dictation of policy to the various Agricultural Departments by a body outside the province might lead to undesirable friction and that the ultimate authority both in this respect and in regard to the licensing of gins and presses must be the Local Government."

From the copies of Minutes received in this office I find that the several Provincial and Divisional Cotton Committees in India have met as follows during the last six years:—

Punjab	..	..	..	5 times	Sind Divisional Cotton Committee	5 times.
Madras	..	..	..	3 "	Gujarat	.. .. 3 "
C. P. & Berar	..	..	..	3 "	Khandesh	.. .. 4 "
Bengal	..	..	..	Once	Dharwar	.. .. Once.
Tuticorin Cotton Sub-Committee	Once.					

I am sure however that the Committee has not received copies of the Minutes of all the meetings held.

At its first meeting held in July 1921, the Committee considered it desirable that the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, should be invited to attend meetings of Provincial Cotton Committees when matters of general interest were up for discussion and the Directors of Agriculture, Central Provinces, Bombay, Punjab, United Provinces and Burma were circularized in the matter. I would therefore suggest that this previous decision be implemented and that the Secretary of the Central Cotton Committee should be given an opportunity of attending Provincial Cotton Committee meetings in order to keep in touch with the general work of cotton improvement being carried out in the Provinces. I would also suggest that when these Provincial Committees become really live bodies, all new schemes for help from the Central Cotton Committee should first be considered by them. In this way the Central Cotton Committee will get the benefit of the views of all the local cotton interests affected by the new scheme. A Provincial Committee being much more in touch with local conditions should be of considerable help in aiding the Agricultural Department to lay down and carry into effect a policy of general improvement.

APPENDIX XIX.

SUBJECT 23.—*Representation of Sind cotton growers on the Indian Central Cotton Committee.*

Secretary's note.

The following letter from the Chief Agricultural Officer, Sind, is for consideration :—

"Copy of letter No. 351-A, dated the 24th November 1931, from the Chief Agricultural Officer in Sind, Karachi, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay.

I have the honour to state that, at the meeting of the Advisory Committee, Lloyd Barrage, held on 18th October, 1931, a resolution was passed to the effect that an additional member, representing the cotton growers of Sind, should be added to the membership of the Indian Central Cotton Committee. Under Section 4 (viii) of the Indian Cotton Cess Act of 1923, two persons representing the cotton growing industry can be nominated to the Central Cotton Committee by each of the Local Governments of Madras, Bombay, the United Provinces, the Punjab and the Central Provinces. It is a fact that, under this Section 4 (viii), the Bombay Government have, in the past, nominated a cotton grower of Sind as one of the two cotton growers' representatives from the Bombay Presidency but, in view of the great importance of the cotton growing industry in Sind and the enormous development of cotton cultivation anticipated after the establishment of perennial irrigation under the Lloyd Barrage and Canal Systems, it is most desirable that the cotton growers of Sind should have statutory and permanent representation on the Indian Central Cotton Committee. Accordingly, I have the honour to request that this letter be placed before the forthcoming meeting of the Committee in December, 1931, and a resolution moved to the effect that the Government of India be requested to so amend Section 4 (viii) of the Indian Cotton Cess Act as to include a representative of the cotton growers of Sind, nominated by the Commissioner in Sind, on the Indian Central Cotton Committee."

Before the appointment in April 1929 of Rao Sahab C. S. Shirahatti as one of the two cotton growers' representatives for Bombay Presidency, one post had always been filled by a member from Sind under Section 4 (viii) of the Indian Cotton Cess Act.

Up to March 1929, one appointment under Section 4 (xi) (additional member) was filled by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gujarat, Surat, but on the termination of his office in March 1929, the post was held by an Agricultural Officer from Sind viz. Mr. K. I. Thadani, followed by Mr. W. J. Jenkins. Sind has thus always been represented either by an official or by a non-official.

The Sind growers should, I consider, be represented on the Committee and it is for consideration whether it would not be better to recommend that one of the two posts earmarked for Bombay Presidency should be reserved for Sind instead of adding to the number of members.

APPENDIX XX.

SUBJECT 24.—*Cotton Statistics—Comparison of Cotton Press Returns with Cotton Forecasts.*

Secretary's Note.

The comparison of the Press Returns with Government Forecasts has always in the past been done at the July meeting but at the request of the Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency, this item will, in future, be included in the cold weather Agenda.

The attached note and statement analyse the figures for the 1930-31 season, and they are provided to help the officers responsible for framing Government Forecasts to lay their finger on the discrepancies which occur between the two sets of figures. The latest published figures of the Rail-borne Trade Returns are for the month of July and until the figures for August are available these statistics cannot be used to aid in this comparison.

since press returns are furnished from all Provinces and States known to have pressing facilities except Assam, Gwalior, Patiala, Mysore, Cutch, etc., the total cotton production which is estimated to be just over 200,000 bales, it has been considered advisable to group Provinces and States geographically in the table, instead of showing British India and Indian States separately in two groups as has been done in the past.

BOMBAY.

It has been noticed in the past that for a proper comparison of the forecasts with the press returns the crop of Baroda State should be considered along with that of Bombay. In the attached statement, therefore, the figures relating to the Baroda State have been brought under the head "Bombay", though in the All-India Forecasts, Baroda is shown separately from Bombay Presidency.

The estimated crop given in the statement for British India, the Baroda State and those Indian States which have not so far instituted cotton press returns has been taken from the April 1931 cotton forecasts of the Bombay Presidency and the Baroda State. In the case of the other Indian States the estimated crop figures given are not the April 1931 estimates, but revised estimates recently communicated by the Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency. The reason for adopting these figures is that the published April forecasts do not show separate figures for these States.

Before proceeding with the comparison of the two sets of figures it has to be pointed out that the revised estimates for some of the States referred to in the previous paragraph are considerably higher than the estimates in the April forecast, since the estimated crop of 1,329,000 bales in the April forecast is now raised to 1,448,371 bales, thus bringing the forecast nearer the pressed crop of 1,433,456 bales.

Subject to the general position stated above, the following may be noted in a detailed examination of the two sets of figures for each block.

In British Indian Gujerat there is, as usual, a large excess of cotton pressed over the estimated crop, but this is completely wiped out by the reverse position in the Gujerat States, the sum total being a deficit of 53,401 bales pressed as compared with the estimated crop. The estimated crop includes the loose cotton consumed by mills and for domestic purposes while the press returns include imports from Rajputana and Central India. Adjustments must be made for these.

In the North Deccan block the cotton pressed is in excess of the estimated crop by 38,891 bales. The usual explanation given for the excess in this block is the import of lint and kapas from Hyderabad and Central India. It will be noticed that in the Hyderabad State there is very little deficiency while in the adjoining Central India States the cotton pressed is in excess of the forecasted crop. Hence if the reason given for the excess in the North Deccan block is as being due to import an adjustment will be necessary in the figures for Hyderabad and Central India.

In the East Deccan block the cotton pressed is less than the forecast crop by 10,117 bales. This may be due to village consumption, but there is, usually, substantial import of kapas and lint into this block from Hyderabad. Whether such was the case during 1930-31 has yet to be ascertained.

In the West Deccan block, the cotton pressed is less than the forecast crop by 39,728 bales. Last year it was noticed that there were considerable exports of cotton from this block to Hyderabad and Mysore States and also to Madras. If such export is in the form of kapas and unpressed lint there is an explanation for this deficit.

In Sind, the excess of cotton pressed is less than the forecast crop by 10,117 bales. Last year it was noticed that there were considerable exports of cotton from this block to Hyderabad and Mysore States and also to Madras. If such export is in the form of kapas and unpressed lint there is an explanation for this deficit.

In the Punjab, the excess of cotton pressed is, as usual, much less than the cotton pressed. The usual explanation for this is the existence of non-reporting States in the Punjab, and the difference in the bale-weights used in the forecasts and the cotton press returns. So far as the statement at present under consideration is concerned, the inclusion in the forecast of the figures relating to the few minor non-reporting States can be put as a counter balance against the crop pressed in the Malerkotla and Patiala States, which are known to have presses but have not yet begun to compile cotton pressed returns. Nor can the discrepancy be explained away as due to the difference in the bale weights of the two sets of figures. For British Punjab the equivalent number of 400 lbs. bales for 817,553

running bales shown in the press returns is, according to the statement published in the India Trade Journal of October 1, 1931, only 29,440 bales less than this figure. Even allowing for this, there remains an excess of nearly one lakh bales of pressed cotton. In the circumstances it can be assumed that the crop has been underestimated by about this figure. Further, the adjoining blocks of Sind and Rajputana also show excesses. Therefore if the import of *Laps* and lint from these places is given as an explanation for the high press returns in the Punjab, an adjustment will be necessary in the figures for those two blocks.

In the Rajputana block, which comprises the Indian States included in the Agency and Ajmer Merwara, the number of bales pressed was 34,321 more than the forecast crop. This excess is in spite of the fact that cotton press returns were not available during the season from the States of Bundi, Kotah and Kishengarh.

In the Central India block there is a deficit of 61,068 bales. It will be noticed, however, that this is due to the fact that cotton press returns have not yet been instituted in the Gwalior State, the estimated production of which is 103,000 bales.

In the United Provinces there is as usual, a deficit, which may be due to extra factory consumption.

There is a large excess in Bengal.

In the Central Provinces and Berar there is an excess of 185,796 bales. Together with the loose cotton received in mills the excess amounts to just over two lakhs bales. The excesses in the Nagpur and Berar blocks require to be examined.

In the Hyderabad State the cotton pressed is less than the forecast crop, but in view of the fact that the excesses in almost all the adjoining British tracts are generally represented as being partly due to the imports of *Laps* and lint from the State, the real position with regard to the accuracy of the Hyderabad forecast will not be ascertained until figures relating to the road movement of cotton are available.

In the Madras Presidency the season runs from February to January, and hence the crop of 1930-31 can be compared only with the press returns of February 1931 to January 1932. No comparison is therefore possible at this stage.

The position may now be summarised as follows:—

1930-31 Cotton Crop of India.

(In thousands of bales—estimated crop in bales of 400 lbs nett and press returns in running bales).

Total Indian cotton crop as estimated in the April 1931 forecast 1,820

Deduct the crops of:—

Burma—which is separate 87

Madras—season not over 417

504

Gwalior ..	} Areas which are known to have pressing factories, but press returns from which are not available.	103
Cutch ..		30
Patiala ..		21
Mysore ..		10
Radhanpur ..		6
Kotah ..		6
Kishengarh ..		3
Dewas J. B ..		3
Bundi ..		1
Assam ..		15
Malerkotla ..		not known

207

711

Estimated crop with which press returns are comparable 4,109

No. of bales pressed in British India excluding Madras and Burma ..	3,359
No. of bales pressed in Indian States	1,192
	<hr/> 4,551
No. of bales of loose cotton received in mills in the Punjab, Bombay, United Provinces and Central Provinces & Bihar	93
	<hr/> 4,674
Excess of cotton pressed and loose cotton received in mills over the estimated crop of 4,600 bales	567

From the above, it would appear that the crop had been underestimated by about half-a-million bales. To this should be added the quantity of cotton that is used for domestic purposes.

The commercial crop of 1930-31 may be stated as follows:—

Exports	3,729,000 bales.
Mill consumption	2,269,000 "
	<hr/> 5,998,000 bales.
Estimated village consumption	750,000 "
	<hr/>
Total	6,748,000 bales.

If to the figure of 4,674,000 bales accounted for by press returns and loose cotton received in mills is added the estimated crop of 711,000 bales deducted as having no comparable press returns the total indicated crop for 1930-31 comes to 5,385,000 bales. This quantity is still much below the total of exports and mill consumption. Since we know that exported cotton is all in full-pressed bales we have to infer that a large part of this difference is due to the incompleteness of the loose cotton returns. At present we receive these only from the mills in the five major cotton growing provinces. Forty-seven mills situated in the Indian States, 12 in Bengal, 3 in Ajmer-Merwara and 1 in Burma amounting to 63 in all do not at present furnish these figures. It is reasonable to assume that mills in the *mofussil* take considerable quantities of loose cotton and in order to make our returns complete all mills in India should be asked to submit the returns.

At present the mills which supply these figures furnish them monthly, but there is no particular advantage in this. Annual statistics would be sufficient. If the Committee agrees, all mills in India will be asked to furnish a yearly statement of the quantity of loose cotton consumed by them.

Table showing the estimated cotton crop and the number of bales pressed in India during the season 1930-31.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Remarks.
Estimated crop. (Bales of 400 lbs. nett).	Number of bales pressed. (Running bales). †	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) of cotton pressed over estimated crop.		
BOMBAY—				† Figures taken from all-India Weekly Press Returns.
<i>Western India States—</i>				* Figures supplied by the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, in his letter No. P150, dated 24-10-31. Relato to April 1931 estimates.
Nawanagar *	13,153	8,528	— 4,625	
Porbandar *	12,712	12,156	— 556	
Dhrangadra *	52,293	17,149	— 35,144	
Bhavnagar *	112,138	33,731	— 78,407	
Gondal *	7,993	5,986	— 2,007	
Wankaner *	6,806	3,943	— 2,863	
Wadhwan *	9,518	6,356	— 3,162	
Limbdi *	3,900	4,785	+ 885	
Rajkot *	1,407	2,030	+ 623	
Morvi *	33,864	13,980	— 19,884	
Sardargadh *	3,576	13,516	+ 9,940	
Junagadh *	61,965	53,847	— 8,118	
Manavadar *	8,371	21,895	+ 13,524	
Jasdan *	2,580	3,871	+ 1,291	
Muli *	8,791	2,628	— 6,163	
Sayla *	3,432	1,818	— 1,614	
Lakhtar *	7,864	3,301	— 4,563	
Agency Areas *	62,138	4,252	— 57,886	
Western India States Agency Total ..	(a) 436,396	213,772	— 222,624	(a) Includes also other States in the Agency.
<i>Mahikantha Agency</i>				
Idar *	2,820	4,200	+ 1,380	
Katosan *	468	7,593	— 7,125	
Total ..	3,288	11,793	+ 8,505	
<i>Rewakantha Agency</i>				
Rajpipla *	43,395	31,811	— 11,584	
Chhota Udepur *	20,230	8,613	— 11,617	
Cambay *	3,001	2,764	— 237	
Total ..	66,626	43,188	— 23,438	(b) Includes also other States in the Mahikantha and Rewakantha Agencies and in the other Agencies.
Other Gujarat States Total	(b) * 82,690	54,981	— 27,709	
<i>Baroda State</i>				
Baroda District @	67,298	65,215	— 2,083	@ Figures taken from the Baroda cotton forecast of February 1931. No change in April 1931.
Navsari @	30,258	18,820	— 11,438	
Kadi @	35,882	48,380	+ 12,498	
Amreli @	9,216	2,570	— 6,646	
Total .. @	1,42,654	134,985	— 7,669	

(1)	Estimated crop. (Bales of 100 lbs. nett.).	Number of bales proved (Rennet bales).	Excess (+) or Deficit (-) of cotton pressed over estimated crop.	Remarks.
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
BOMBAY—(Contd.)				
Total Indian States Gujarat	651,740	107,738	-259,602	† Figures taken from All-India Weekly Press Returns.
British India—Gujarat	175,947	371,544	-109,601	
Total—Gujarat	827,687	779,282	-59,401	(c) Total of "Western India States Agency," "Other Gujarat States" and "Baroda State."
Br. India—North Deccan	280,270	328,121	+ 47,851	
—East Deccan	68,621	60,595	-8,026	
(Akshat & other Deccan States)	2,088	..	-2,088	‡ Figures taken from the Bombay Provincial Forecast of April 1931.
Total—East Deccan	70,712	60,595	-10,117	
S. M. C. States				
Mudhol	6,314	1,030	- 5,284	
Jamkhadi	13,014	1,698	-11,316	
Mira (Str.)	1,334	1,276	- 58	
Sangli	11,752	4,218	- 7,534	* Figures supplied by the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, in his letter No. P. 152, dated 24.10.31.
Kolhapur	6,671	2,252	- 4,419	
Savarnur & other States	3,894	2,088	- 1,806	
Total	43,009	13,492	-29,517	
British India—West Deccan	122,662	112,451	-10,211	† Figures taken from the Bombay Provincial Forecast of April 1931.
Total—West Deccan	165,671	125,943	-39,728	
Br. India—Sind	83,831	140,515	+ 56,684	
Kharipur—Sind	1,241	..	- 1,241	
Total—Sind	85,072	140,515	+ 55,443	
Total—Indian States	708,081	417,230	-290,851	
Br. India—Bombay	740,290	1,016,226	+ 275,936	
Bombay	1,448,371	1,433,456	-14,915	
Loose cotton received in mills in the Presidency.	..	54,409	+ 54,409	
GRAND TOTAL	1,418,371	1,487,865	+ 69,494	
PUNJAB.				
Indian States—	..	16,400	25,809	+ 9,409
Nabha	..	..	9,114	+ 9,114
Faridkot	..	12,100	23,415	+ 11,315
Jind	..	43,600	12,154	+ 31,446
Behawalpur	..	20,600	..	-20,600
Patiala	..	7,000	..	- 7,000
Kapurthala	..	..	70,492	+ 70,492
Total	..	99,700	70,492	-29,208
‡ Figures taken from the Punjab Forecast of February 1931.				

	Estimated crop. (Bales of 400 lbs. nett.).	Number of bales pressed (Running bales). †	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) of cotton pressed over esti- mated crop. (4)	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
PUNJAB—(Contd.)				† Figures taken from All-India Weekly Press Returns.
Br. India—Ambala .. ‡	91,200	146,773	+ 55,573	‡ Figures taken from the Punjab forecast of Feb- ruary 1931.
„ Jullunder .. ‡	33,200	17,644	— 15,556	
„ Lahore .. ‡	124,000	128,900	+ 4,900	
„ Rawalpindi .. ‡	56,000	60,463	+ 4,463	
„ Multan .. ‡	325,200	398,450	+ 73,250	
„ Ferozepore .. ‡	36,700	63,323	+ 28,623	
Total ‡	666,300	817,553	+ 151,253	
Total—Punjab .. ‡	766,000	887,945	+ 122,045	
Loose cotton received in mills in the Punjab ..	..	4,307	+ 4,307	
GRAND TOTAL	766,000	892,252	+ 126,352	
N. W. F. Provinces .. @	3,000	513	— 2,487	@ Figures taken from the All-India forecast of April 1931.
Delhi @	1,000	..	— 1,000	
RAJPUTANA.				
<i>Rajputana States</i>				
Jaipur +	11,899	2,562	— 9,337	+ Figures taken from the All-India February 1931 forecast. No change in April.
Jodhpur +	6,323	9,032	+ 2,709	
Tonk +	4,206	10,778	+ 6,572	
Jhalawar +	4,074	10,516	+ 6,442	
Shahpura +	2,223	1,123	— 1,100	
Mewar +	25,140	42,231	+ 17,091	
Bikaner +	4,653	9,870	+ 5,217	
Bundi +	1,370	..	— 1,370	
Kotah +	5,631	..	— 5,631	
Kishanganrh +	2,541	..	— 2,541	
Others +	4,950	..	— 4,950	
Total +	73,010	86,112	+ 13,102	
Ajmer-Merwara @	11,000	32,219	+ 21,219	
Total-Rajputana ..	84,010	118,331	+ 34,321	
CENTRAL INDIA.				
Gwalior @	103,000	..	— 103,000	† Figure supplied by the D. G. C. I. and S. in his letter No. 4254/P, dated 13-5-31.
Indore ‡	112,480	138,069	+ 25,589	

(1)	Estimated crop. (Bales of 400 lbs. nett.).	Number of bales pressed (Running bales). †	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) of cotton pressed over esti- mated crop. (4)	Remarks.
CENTRAL INDIA—(Contd.)				
<i>Bhopal Agency</i>				
Bhopal .. .. .	.. † 7,255	10,051	+ 2,796	† Figures taken from All-India Weekly Press Returns.
Narsingarh .. .. .	.. † 9,015	11,798	+ 2,783	
Rajgarh .. .. .	.. † 8,739	..	— 8,739	
Others .. .. .	.. † 1,312	..	— 1,312	
Total .. .. .	.. † 26,321	21,849	— 4,472	
<i>Bhaghelkhand Agency</i>	.. † 970	..	— 970	† Figures supplied by the D. G. C. I. & S. in his letter No. 4254-P, dated 13.5.31.
<i>Bundelkhand Agency</i>				
Datia .. .. .	.. † 3,343	838	— 2,505	
Others and Alhura .. .. .	.. † 3,088	919	— 2,169	
Total .. .. .	.. † 6,431	1,757	— 4,674	
<i>Malwa Agency.</i>				
Dewas S. B. .. .. .	.. † 3,003	..	— 3,003	
Dewas J. B. .. .. .	.. † 3,454	..	— 3,454	
Jaora .. .. .	.. † 5,846	18,383	+ 12,537	
Rutlam .. .. .	.. † 4,585	15,291	+ 10,706	
Others .. .. .	.. † 3,193	..	— 3,193	
Total .. .. .	.. † 20,081	33,674	+ 13,593	
<i>Southern States Agency</i>				
Dhar .. .. .	.. † 20,149	30,248	+ 10,099	(a) Figure reported by the State.
Jhabua .. .. .	.. † 1,456	(a) 1,916	+ 460	
Barwani .. .. .	.. † 16,036	18,119	+ 2,083	
Alirajpur .. .. .	.. † 400	..	— 400	
Others .. .. .	.. † 276	..	— 276	
Total .. .. .	.. † 38,317	50,283	+ 11,966	
Total—Central India	307,600	245,632	— 61,968	
<i>United Provinces.</i>				
Upper Doab .. .. .	.. @ 145,181	118,447	— 26,734	④ Figures taken from the U. P. February 1931 forecast. No change in April.
Middle Doab .. .. .	.. @ 117,708	71,678	— 46,030	
Lower Doab & Bundelkhand .. .. .	.. @ 21,473	17,297	— 4,176	
Rohilkhand including Rampur State .. .. .	.. @ { 28,321	9,976	— 23,360	
Rest of the Province .. .. .	.. @ { 5,015	..	— 3,678	
Total .. .. .	.. @ 321,376	217,398	— 103,978	
Lose cotton received in mills .. .. .	.. ..	18,496	+ 18,496	
GRAND TOTAL	321,376	235,894	— 85,482	

		Estimated crop (Bales of 400 lbs. nett.).	Number of bales pressed (Running bales.)	Excess (+) or Deficit (—) of cotton pressed over esti- mated crop. (4)	Remarks.
(1)		(2)	† (3)		
Bihar and Orissa	0	14,000	..	— 14,000	† Figures taken from the All-India Weekly Press Returns.
Bengal	0	19,000	35,547	+ 16,547	
Assam	0	15,000	..	— 15,000	
<i>Central Provinces and Berar.</i>					0 Figures taken from the All-India cotton forecast of April 1931.
Jubbulpore	a	1,300	..	— 1,300	
Norbudda	a	19,000	23,200	+ 14,200	
Nimar	a	93,900	101,985	+ 8,085	a Figures taken from the Central Provinces forecast of February 1931 which are in bales of 400 lbs. gross (392 lbs. nett).
Nagpur	a	215,300	326,060	+ 110,760	
Satpura	a	34,900	13,566	— 21,334	
Chattisgarh	a	800	..	— 800	aa In the All-India forecast only the equivalent of 1,062,000 bales of 400 lbs. is taken into account. No change in April.
Central Provinces Total ..	a	365,200	464,811	+ 99,611	
Berar	a	718,500	804,685	+ 86,185	
Central Provinces & Berar —Total	aa	1,083,700	1,269,496	+ 185,796	x Figures taken from the Madras forecast of April 1931.
Loose cotton received in mills .. ..	..	..	15,771	+ 15,771
GRAND TOTAL ..	..	1,083,700	1,285,267	+ 201,567
Hyderabad State	0	382,000	372,558	— 9,442	* Cotton pressed from 1st February 1931 to 6th November 1931.
Mysore State	0	10,000	..	— 10,000	
<i>Madras.</i>					
Tinnevelly	x	132,600*	58,891	— 73,709	@ Unpressed cotton received in mills from 1st Feb. 1931 to 6th November 1931.
Salams	x	32,700*	8,931	— 23,769	
Cambodias	x	110,900*	54,286	— 56,614	
Northern & Westerns ..	x	109,900*	91,227	— 18,673	d Figure taken from the Burma forecast of February 1931. No change in April.
Cocanadas & others ..	x	30,700*	24,344	— 6,356	
Total	x	416,800*	237,679	— 179,121	
Loose cotton received in mills	@ 57,458	+ 57,458	
GRAND TOTAL	416,800	295,137	— 121,663	
Burma	d	86,800	39,022	— 47,778	

Supplementary Note (I).

The Director of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency, has submitted an exhaustive note which is attached, explaining the discrepancies between the forecasted crop and the press returns in the presidency, a perusal of which will convince the most sceptical that every effort is being made by provincial authorities to improve the accuracy of their estimates. Mr. Main deserves great credit for the completeness of his examination.

Mr. Main makes two requests (1) that the Central Cotton Committee should ask the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics to publish separately trade statistics for loose cotton, and (2) that the Central Cotton Committee should make efforts to obtain complete press figures for Western India States.

As regards the first request, it is not necessary for the Committee to pass a resolution on the subject. If the suggestion is acceptable I shall get into touch with the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics and obtain his views on the subject. Regarding request No. (2), as far as we know Cutch and Radhanpur are the only States which have passed pressing factories and did not submit press returns in 1930-31. Radhanpur has introduced a Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act recently and press returns will be available during this season. Cutch has been addressed repeatedly but no reply can be obtained. Every effort will continue to be made by this office to get complete press figures.

Note comparing the Final Cotton Forecast Outturn with the quantity actually pressed in the cotton presses of the Bombay Presidency during the season 1930-31.

In this note the "Raw Cotton Trade Statistics" showing the rail-borne trade in raw cotton published by the Director of Statistics, Calcutta, have not been taken into account as these statistics do not differentiate between cotton already pressed and loose cotton. As it is the latter which only can affect our press figures, we want statistics separately for the same but as these are not available in the statistics published by the Director of Statistics, it has not been found possible to make use of these in the present note. As it is likely that a good deal of loose cotton comes in for pressing in the Bombay Provinces and from both the adjoining British Territory and Indian States, e.g., Central Provinces and Berar and the Nizam's Dominions, it will be very desirable to have separate statistics for the loose cotton so imported for pressing and perhaps the Indian Central Cotton Committee may be requested to approach the Director of Statistics with a view to publish these separately in future.

Now with regard to the accuracy of the Final Cotton Forecast as compared with cotton press statistics the following is briefly the position in the different divisions of Bombay Presidency :—

I. GUJARAT.

L. GUJARAT.

Districts arranged according to Cotton Press Blocks,	Final Cotton Forecast, April 1931.				Season and Crop Report, July 1931.			Bales of cotton actual- ly pressed upto 31st August 1931.	Bales pressed over (+) or below (-) the outturn in	
	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Standard yield in lbs. per acre.	Outturn.	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Outturn.		Final Cotton Forecast (Col. 5).	Season and Crop Report (Col. 8.)
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Acres.	Anna.	Lbs.	Bales.	Acres.	Anna.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Ahmedabad ..	358,713	6.0	125	56,498	377,299	6.5	63,392	101,303	+ 44,805	+ 37,911
Kaira ..	63,804	7.3	115	12,156	68,019	8.0	13,093	24,289	+ 12,133	+ 11,196
Panch Mahals ..	31,568	8.9	120	7,025	29,631	7.6	5,628	9,613	+ 2,618	+ 4,015
Porband ..	273,423	8.4	130	62,205	284,421	9.0	68,971	148,393	+ 86,188	+ 79,422
Surat ..	171,045	8.9	120	38,059	167,935	6.0	25,189	83,425	+ 45,366	+ 58,236
Total—Gujarat ..	808,553	7.5		175,913	927,303	7.3	176,273	367,053	+ 191,110	+ 190,780

The forecasted outturn of 175,943 bales (col. 5) is short by 191,110 bales (col. 10) of cotton actually pressed, viz.: 367,053 bales (col. 9). The figures of area reported for the Final Cotton Forecast in April 1931 are however nearly confirmed by the subsequent data received in July 1931 in connection with the Season and Crop Report at which time actual and not estimated areas are communicated. Thus the forecast area 899,000 acres (col. 2) is short of the Season and Crop Report area of 927,000 acres (col. 6) by only 28,000 acres or less than three per cent. and considering that the forecast areas are estimates in many cases, we must admit that in this case the area figures reported for the forecast are very fairly accurate.

The anna valuation worked out for the Gujarat Division as a whole from that reported at the time of the Final Forecast from the various districts in the division is 7.5 (col. 3) and this compares very favourably with the anna valuation worked out similarly from the figures reported for the Season and Crop Report, viz. 7.3 (col. 7).

As the area figures are fairly accurate as remarked above and as the forecasted outturn is considerably below the press figure it would appear that the anna valuations reported both for the Final Cotton Forecast and the Season and Crop Report were unduly high. This is not, however, the case. For, we have to remember that the British Districts of Gujarat are very closely interlaced with Indian States and hence to have a true picture of the position it is necessary to consider the figures in the adjoining States side by side with those of the British Districts. When this is done we have the following position:—

		Final Cotton Forecast outturn (April 1931)	Quantity pressed since 1st September 1930 to 31st August 1931.
		Bales.	Bales.
A.	British Districts of Gujarat ..	175,943	367,053
B.	Indian States adjoining the British Territory of Gujarat		
	(a) Baroda	149,000	134,985
	(b) Western India States Agency	436,596 (Revised).	213,772* 15,424†
	(c) Other Gujarat States ..	82,690 (Revised).	51,081
	Total Gujarat & Kathiawar ..	835,029	786,215

The Final Forecast Outturn is thus higher by some 49,040 bales than the press figure or by some six per cent. only which is not much and even this small difference may be due either (1) to a slightly higher anna valuation reported from the Western India States Agency and the other Gujarat States but more probably due to (2) incomplete press statistics from these States.

The line of improvement in this connection would thus appear to be to try to obtain more complete press returns from the Western India States Agency. A definite improvement has already been made in this respect since the press figure for 1929-30 as will be seen from the fact that whereas during this season (1929-30) the press statistics published in the Indian Trade Journal for this Agency amounted to a total of 127,572 bales only, they have risen to 213,772 bales during the season under review presumably as a result of the efforts made by the Indian Central Cotton Committee in this respect at the Department's request made to it last year. But from the press statistics for 1929-31 it appears that there is still room for further improvement in this connection and perhaps the Indian Central Cotton Committee may be requested to consider what further action it can take in the matter.

* Published in the Indian Trade Journal.

† Obtained in addition by telegraph from the State Authorities.

II. NORTH DECCAN.

Districts arranged according to Cotton Price Blocks.	Final Cotton Forecast, April 1931.				Season and Crop Report (July 1931).			Bales of Cotton actually pressed upto 31st August 1931.	Bales pressed over (+) or below (-) the outturn in	
	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Standard yield in lbs. per acre.	Outturn.	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Outturn.		Final Cot- ton Forecast (Col. 5).	Season and Crop Report (Col. 8)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
West Khandesh ..	Acrea. 142,676	Anna. 10.0	Ibs. 110	Bales. 101,815	Acrea. 143,629	Anna. 9.0	Bales. 90,914	Bales. 133,577	Bales. + 31,762	Bales. + 42,633
East Khandesh ..	.. 958,428	.. 10.8	.. 110	.. 165,437	.. 668,076	.. 10.7	.. 167,680	.. 163,582	- 1,855	- 98
Nashik ..	.. 98,999	.. 7.3	.. 100	.. 21,978	.. 99,224	.. 9.0	.. 18,618	.. 24,400	+ 2,422	+ 5,782
Total—North Deccan ..	.. 1,210,103	.. 10.2	.. ..	.. 289,230	.. 1,210,999	.. 9.1	.. 273,212	.. 321,559	+ 32,329	+ 48,317

The forecasted outturn of 280,230 bales (col. 5) is short of the quantity actually pressed, viz., 321,559 bales (col. 9) by some 32,329 bales (col. 10). So far as the area is concerned, the figures are as accurate as can be, as will be seen from the fact that the area reported for the final cotton forecast in April 1931 of 1,210,000 acres (col. 2) is *exactly* confirmed by the area reported subsequently for the season and crop report which is also the same—1,210,000 acres (col. 6). The area factor is thus not responsible for the difference. It would hence appear that the anna valuation reported for the final cotton forecast, which for the block as a whole works out to 10.2 from the figures reported for the various districts in the block, was an underestimate. But rather than assuming the anna valuation as an underestimate it seems more than probable that the difference is due to the good deal of cotton which comes into the block for pressing from the adjoining territory of Central India and the Nizam's Dominions, and which has raised the press figure.

As stated in the beginning of this note, the rail-borne trade figures do not give separately the amount of loose cotton that comes in for pressing and as such it is not possible to make an estimate of this amount, although it must be considerable.

If we make allowance for this factor, then the forecast in this Block would appear to be very nearly accurate.

III. EAST DECCAN.

Districts arranged according to Cotton Press Blocks.	Final Cotton Forecast, April 1931.				Season and Crop Report (July 1931).			Bales of cotton actual- ly pressed upto 31st August 1931.	Bales pressed over (+) or below (-) the outturn in	
	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Standard yield in lbs. per acre.	Outturn.	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Outturn.		Final Cotton Forecast (Col. 5).	ason and Crop Report (Col. 8).
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ahmednagar ..	Acres. 106,797	Anna. 6.6	Lbs. 90	Bales. 13,350	Acres. 116,145	Anna. 7.0	Bales. 15,098	Bales 16,426	Bales, + 3,076	Bales, + 1,328
Sholapur ..	35,369	6.4	90	1,241	35,569	5.8	3,824	14,746	+10,502	+10,922
Bijapur ..	457,213	6.0	90	51,030	463,011	5.0	44,043	28,211	-22,819	-15,832
Total—East Deccan ..	599,379	6.1		68,624	615,325	5.4	62,965	59,383	-9,241	- 3,582

The forecasted outturn of 68,624 bales (col. 5) is higher than the amount actually pressed, viz., 59,383 bales (col. 9) by 9,241 bales (col. 10). The area reported for the final cotton forecast in April 1931, viz., 599,379 acres (col. 2) is very nearly the same as that reported subsequently in July for the Season and Crop Report, viz., 615,325 acres. The difference between the two being only of some 16,000 acres which works out to between two and three per cent. only need not be considered. Hence, the difference between the forecasted outturn and the press figure may be due to the anna valuation factor and this appears to be actually the case. Thus, while in the districts of Ahmednagar and Sholapur the outturn worked out from the area and anna valuation reported for the final cotton forecast is very nearly the same, viz., 18,000 bales (13,350 for Ahmednagar + 4,241 for Sholapur in col. 5), as that worked out from the area and anna valuation reported subsequently for the Season and Crop Report, viz., 19,000 bales (15,098 for Ahmednagar and 3,821 for Sholapur in col. 8). The case is different in Bijapur District. Here, the forecasted outturn (col. 5) is 51,030 bales against the outturn arrived at, at the time of the Season and Crop Report, viz., 44,043 bales (col. 8) or an excess of 7,000 bales which very nearly explains the difference of 9,000 bales between the forecasted outturn and the amount pressed in the block. This excess of some 7,000 bales in outturn in the case of the Bijapur District is due to an anna valuation of 6 being reported for the forecast instead of the 5 annas reported for the Season and Crop Report.

As it is difficult to make any distinction between a 5 anna crop and a 6 anna crop, the Revenue Officers cannot be in fairness blamed for this difference. Perhaps, however, the attention of the Commissioner, S. D., may be invited to this point.

IV. WEST DECCAN.

Districts arranged according to Cotton Press Blocks.	Final Cotton Forecast, April 1931.					Season and Crop Report (July 1931).			Bales of Cotton actually pressed upto 31st August 1931.	Bales pressed over (+) or below (—) the outturn in	
	Area.		Anna Valuation.	Standard yield in lbs. per acre.	Outturn.	Area.	Anna Valuation.	Outturn.		Final Cotton Forecast (Col. 5).	Season and Crop Report (Col. 8).
	2	3	4	5	6		7	8			
1						6	7	8	9	10	11
Poona	Acres.	Anna.	Lbs.	Bales.		Acres.	Anna.	Bales.	Pales.	Bales.	Bales.
.. ..	6,759	7.7	50	979		9,295	6.5	1,131	6,587	+ 5,608	+ 5,156
Satara	13,957	9.7	90	2,548		15,607	9.6	2,347	....	— 2,548	— 2,347
Belgaum	189,213	6.6	160	26,020		202,207	7.0	27,720	22,757	— 3,203	— 4,963
Dharwar	631,290	5.9	120	93,115		569,654	5.6	84,356	80,863	— 12,252	— 3,493
Total—West Deccan and S. M. C.	841,249	6.1	..	122,662		796,763	6.0	115,554	116,203	— 12,459	— 3,004

The forecasted outturn of 122,662 bales (col. 5) is higher than the amount actually pressed, viz., 110,203 bales (col. 9) by 12,459 bales (col. 10) and curiously enough very nearly the whole of this difference is traceable to the Dharwar district. Thus, out of the four districts of Poona, Satara, Bolgaum and Dharwar included in this Block, the forecasted outturn in the first three districts, viz., Poona, Satara and Bolgaum, is almost exactly equal to the amount pressed in these districts, as shown below :—

District.				Final Cotton Forecast outturn (col. 5) Bales.	Quantity actually pressed. (col. 9) Bales.
Poona	..	..	..	979	6,587
Satara	..	..	..	2,548	....
Bolgaum	..	..	..	26,020	22,757
Total				29,547	29,344

On the other hand, the forecasted outturn of 93,115 bales (col. 5) in the Dharwar district is higher than the amount actually pressed, viz., 80,863 bales (col. 9) in the district by 12,252 bales (col. 10) and all this big difference is wholly due to an area of 62,000 acres being reported more for the Final Cotton Forecast (631,290 acres in col. 2.) than that subsequently reported for the Season and Crop Report, viz., 569,654 acres in (col. 6). The anna valuation reported for the Final Cotton Forecast was also slightly higher, viz., 5.9 in (col. 3) than that subsequently reported for the Season and Crop Report, viz., 5.6 (col. 7). In other words, if the area and anna valuation reported for the Season and Crop Report had been reported for the Final Cotton Forecast, the forecasted outturn would have been 84,356 bales (col. 8) instead of 93,115 bales (col. 5) forecasted in the Dharwar District. Thus out of a total difference of some 12,000 bales (col. 10) between the forecast estimate (122,662 bales in col. 5) and the press figure (110,203 bales in col. 9) for the West Deccan Block, a difference of some 9,000 bales is traceable to the Dharwar District alone. Apart from this there is a good deal of import of loose cotton for pressing into the Gadag market in this block and if this is taken into account, it would appear that the forecast estimate for the block was higher than the press figure by more than 12,000 bales probably due to a higher anna valuation being reported both for the forecast and the Season and Crop Report in the case of this district. The attention of the Commissioner, S. D. may be invited to this with a request to ask the Collector, Dharwar, to arrange to have more accurate area and anna valuation figures reported to this Department for the cotton forecasts, in future.

V. SIND

Districts arranged according to Cotton Price Band.	Final Cotton Forecast, April 1931.				Season and Crop Report (July 1931.)			Bales of cotton actual- ly pressed upto 31st August 1931.	Bales pressed over (+) or below (-) the outturn in		
	Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Standard yield in lbs. per acre.		Area.	Anna Valua- tion.	Outturn.		Final Cotton Forecast (Col. 5).	Season and Crop Report (Col. 8).	
			2	3							4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
I											
Hyderabad ..	Acres.	Anna	Lbs.	Bales.	Acres.	Anna.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Thar Parkar..	54,085	9.0	198	20,115	56,073	8.0	18,502	33,418	+ 33,273	+ 14,916	
Navsahib ..	137,727	7.0	160	31,975	139,696	7.0	32,803	41,885	+ 9,910	+ 9,082	
Other Sind Districts ..	82,016	8.0	200	31,106	83,349	9.0	32,155	55,251	+ 24,145	+ 23,096	
	2,000	8.0	181	605	1,038	8.0	311	7,151	+ 6,516	+ 6,837	
Total - Sind ..	276,578	7.7	Nil	83,831	281,156	7.7	83,774	137,705	+ 53,871	+ 53,931	

The forecasted outturn of 83,831 bales (col. 5) is short of the amount actually pressed, viz., 137,705 bales (col. 9) by as much as 53,874 bales (col. 10). The area reported for the final cotton forecast, viz., 276,558 bales acres in col. 2 in April 1931 has been nearly confirmed at the time of the Season and Crop Report when an area of 281,156 acres was reported. The difference between the Final Cotton Forecast area and the Season and Crop Report area is thus only of some 5,000 acres which works out to only 2 per cento and so need not be considered. Hence, the discrepancy would appear to be due to the anna valuation factor. Now, the anna valuation reported for the Final Forecast which works out to 7.7 for the province from the figures reported for the various districts is the same as that arrived at from the anna valuation reported for the various districts at the time of the Season and Crop Report. This means that the Collectors in Sind considerably underestimated the crop both in April 1931, i.e., at the time of the Final Cotton Forecast and in July again at the time of the Season and Crop Report. Judging from the press figures, the anna valuation should have been 12 instead of 7.7 and if this (12) had been reported the outturn would have worked out to some 131,000 bales and this figure would have tallied with the press figure of 138,000 bales (col. 9) after making allowance for the cotton that comes in for pressing in the Province of Sind from the adjoining State of Bahawalpur.

Perhaps, the Commissioner in Sind may be requested to consider this point and if approved to issue the necessary instructions to the Collectors in the province so that an unduly low anna valuation may not be reported in future.

On the whole, the position in the different blocks of the Presidency proper appears to be generally satisfactory during the season under review.

(1) The excess of some 49,000 bales or 6 per cent. in the forecast outturn in Gujarat and Kathiawar over the press figure is probably due to incomplete press figures from the Western India States Agency.

(2) The underestimate of some 32,00 bales or by 11 per cent. in the forecasted outturn as compared with the press figure in the North Deccan is probably due to the imports of loose cotton for pressing into the block from the Central India Agency and the Nizam's Territory.

(3) The excess in the forecast estimate over the press figure of some 9,000 bales in the East Deccan seems to be wholly due to a higher anna valuation (6) being reported for the Final Cotton Forecast in the Bijapur district, than was subsequently reported for the Season and Crop Report, viz., 5.

(4) In the West Deccan, the excess in the forecasted outturn over the press figure of some 12,000 bales is chiefly due to an excess of 60,000 acres being reported for the forecast from the Dharwar district over the area subsequently reported for the Season and Crop Report.

In Sind, the forecast estimate is only about two-thirds of the press figure and this under-estimate is probably due to a low anna valuation being reported for the forecast. The anna valuation should have been 12 in place of an average of 7.7 annas for the province.

[SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE (2)].

Raw Cotton Trade Statistics.

This note is supplementary to the one comparing cotton press returns with forecasts already issued. It could not be incorporated in the previous note as complete figures for raw cotton trade statistics were not then available.

Crop indicated by raw cotton trade statistics.

This is the first time the Indian Central Cotton Committee has had an opportunity of considering these statistics, and their limitations and possibilities may, at the outset, be briefly stated. These statistics, hitherto published monthly as supplements to the Indian Trade Journal and, in future, as separate publications, show the inter-provincial trade between each of the 62 internal trade blocks into which India, excluding Burma, has been divided for this purpose. These statistics do not distinguish between foreign and Indian cottons or between pressed and unpressed cotton, and thus they do not supplement cotton press returns in the same way as the raw cotton returns do. (1)

(The figures for mill consumption shown in the statement against the Western Bengal, Dacca, Benares, South Oudh, Jubbulpore, Nimn, and Hissar trade blocks cannot be divulged, as there is only one mill in each of these blocks, and the publication of these figures would therefore be an offence under Section 11 (1) of the Indian Cotton Cess Act).

The results are, in general, in agreement with the results obtained by the comparison of cotton press returns with forecasts, the indicated crop in the Punjab, Sind, the Central Provinces, the Central India States, Rajputana States and Mysore being more than the forecasted crop. No conclusions can be drawn from the Bombay figures as it is known that a considerable quantity of foreign cotton was sent to other blocks in the Presidency from the port of Bombay. There is also some movement of cotton by sea in country boats.

In the case of Madras the figures of production indicated in the statement are not comparable with the forecasted crop, as the two seasons are different.

Production of each major trade block.

A second table showing the position with regard to the major trade blocks, *viz*, the Provinces and States, is also attached. From the point of view of more accurate determination of the production of each major block, this statement is not very useful, as the total net export from a major block is not necessarily the sum of the net exports from each internal trade block in the major block, since the inter block trade for local consumption cancel each other. This statement shows largely at a glance what the position is with regard to the whole of India.

Exports by sea and variation in stocks or carryover have also been taken into consideration, as far as known. Column 9 is the ascertained production by this method. In columns 10 and 11 are given for comparison the crop indicated by the press return and loose cotton received in mills, and the forecasted crop.*

The maritime Provinces of Bombay, Bengal and Sind show production (column 9) much higher than the crop pressed (column 10). Two causes might be cited for this phenomenon, *viz*, reduction in carryover and movement of foreign cotton. In the case of Bombay, however, the discrepancy is too large to be explained away in this way. This requires further investigation.

Some of the excesses noticed in column 9 over column 10 may also be due to the incompleteness of loose cotton returns.

STATEMENT NO. I.

Raw Cotton Trade Statistics—Season 1930-31.

Internal Trade Blocks.	In maunds.			In bales of 400 lbs. net		
	Imports	Exports.	Net exports(+) or not imports(-)	Net exports	Consumption	Production
<i>Assam.</i>						
Upper Assam ..	1,561	4,513	- 2,952	607	..	607
Lower Assam ..	2,942	27,133	- 24,191	4,977	..	4,977
Surma Valley ..	643	35,266	- 34,623	7,122	..	7,122
Total ..	5,146	66,912	+ 61,766	12,706	..	12,706

Internal Trade Blocks.	In maunds.		In bales of 400 lb. net.			
	Imports.	Exports.	Net exports(—) or net imports(—)	Net exports.	Consump- tion.	Produce- tion.
<i>Sind and British Baluchistan.</i>						
Sind and British Baluchistan ex- cluding Karachi.	5,156	702,884	— 697,728	143,333	..	143,333
Karachi	4,659,743	2,179	— 4,657,564	..	..	..
Total ..	4,664,899	705,063	— 3,959,836	..	..	143,333
<i>Central Provinces and Berar.</i>						
Jubbulpore ..	11,212	4,130	— 7,082	— 1,457	3,481	2,024
Nerbudda ..	138	140,419	— 140,281	28,858	..	28,858
Nimar ..	16,092	723,299	— 707,207	145,483	6,708	152,191
Nagpur ..	168,838	1,033,792	— 1,464,954	301,302	84,232	385,594
Chhatisgarh ..	63,337	2	— 63,335	— 13,029	12,088	..
Berar ..	38,290	3,195,587	— 3,157,297	649,501	24,071	673,572
Satpura ..	341	199,576	— 199,235	40,985	..	40,985
Total ..	298,248	5,896,805	— 3,598,557	..	131,180	1,283,224
<i>Bombay Presiden- cy.</i>						
Bombay Port ..	11,798,360	1,034,430	— 10,763,930	— 2,214,294	664,546	..
Gujarat and Ka- thiawar ..	1,076,679	1,518,503	— 441,824	90,890	413,125	504,015
Konkan ..	28,235	997	— 27,238	..	..	..
North Deccan ..	72,262	1,574,036	— 1,501,774	303,936	37,288	346,224
East Deccan ..	377,295	273,980	— 103,315	— 21,253	95,655	74,402
West Deccan ..	13,905	5,799	— 8,106	..	..	..
S. M. Country ..	169,618	292,701	— 123,083	25,320	54,473	79,793
Goa ..	46,320	..	— 46,320	..	..	..
Total ..	13,582,674	4,700,446	— 8,882,228	..	1,265,087	1,004,434
<i>Madras Presiden- cy.</i>						
Madras Port ..	642,377	24,116	— 618,261	— 127,185	53,701	..
French Ports ..	28,515	387	— 28,128	— 5,786	18,350	12,564
Other Sub-Ports ..	154,128	118,982	— 35,146	..	..	..
Circars ..	1,821	2,987	— 1,166	240	..	240
Deltas ..	48,149	142,066	— 93,917	19,320	..	19,320
Deccan ..	1,470	417,828	— 416,358	85,651	..	85,651
North Carnatic ..	852	27,623	— 26,771	5,507	..	5,507
South ..	55	8,889	— 8,834	1,877	..	1,877
Central Districts ..	92,082	205,480	— 113,398	23,327	46,071	69,398
Southern ..	148,730	155,929	— 7,199	1,481	114,067	115,548
West Coast ..	28,652	3,339	— 25,313	— 5,207	9,306	4,099
The Hills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,146,831	1,107,626	— 39,205	..	241,495	314,204

APPENDIX XXI.

SUBJECT 25.—*Cotton Statistics—Publication of All-India Cotton Forecasts by the Committee.*

Secretary's Note.

At the last meeting of the Central Cotton Committee, a resolution was passed asking the Government of India to hand over to the Committee the compilation and publication of the All-India Cotton Forecasts. No reply to this office letter on the subject has been received, so that it cannot come up for discussion at this meeting. Dr. Meek, on his way through Bombay on leave, also asked for a postponement as he wishes to be present when the question comes before the Committee. This is for information.

APPENDIX XXII.

SUBJECT 26.—*Cotton Statistics—Raw cotton trade statistics—Internal trade blocks—Separation of Kathiawar from Gujerat—Reply from the Government of India.*

Secretary's Note.

At the request of the Director of Agriculture, Bombay, and in accordance with the decision of the Central Cotton Committee at its last meeting, the Government of India was requested to separate the Kathiawar States from the Gujerat Trade Block for the purpose of compiling the Raw Cotton Trade Statistics—Railborne Trade Returns. This the Government of India has agreed to as will be seen from the following letter now received.

Copy of letter No. 515-C (8), dated the 5th December 1931, from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

SUBJECT—*Raw Cotton Trade Statistics—Internal Trade Blocks—Separation of Kathiawar from Gujerat.*

With reference to your letter No. 6241 of 1931, dated the 23rd July 1931, on the above subject, I am directed to say that the Government of India agree to the present Gujerat Trade Block being split up into two blocks, viz., Gujerat and Kathiawar, for the purposes of rail-borne trade returns for raw cotton, and that instructions have been issued by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, to the several railways concerned for the compilation of separate figures for each of these two blocks beginning with the returns for the month of September 1931.

APPENDIX XXIII.

SUBJECT 27.—*Fumigation of American cotton—Letter from the Government of India.*

Secretary's Note.

At the last meeting the Committee recommended a rebate of eight annas a bale on all American cotton fumigated during the last financial year. This was communicated to the Government of India and the following reply has been received. A meeting of the Legislative Assembly will be held in January so that the rebate, if sanctioned, will be paid during this financial year.

Copy of letter No. 1852-Agri., dated the 4th December 1931, from the Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

Copy of letter No. 2805 Agri., dated the 25th November 1931, from the Secretary, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay.

"I am directed to say that the Sugar Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, which meets on December 7th and following days, will consider possible modifications of its scheme of enquiry into the cost of sugarcane production with a view to accepting the Indian Central Cotton Committee's offer of co-operation. The Vice-Chairman will put their suggestions before the Indian Central Cotton Committee at its meeting on December 14th and if they are generally acceptable will propose the formation of a small committee to settle details.

Note by the Agricultural Expert, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research

The following suggestions are put forward as a basis of discussion:—

The Sugar Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has proposed an investigation into the cost of sugarcane production and this recommendation has been supported by the Advisory Board of the Council after a further reference to it by the Governing Body. The investigation will therefore be undertaken if sanctioned by the Governing Body of the Council. The Sugar Committee at its last meeting agreed with the proposal that instead of trying to determine the cost of production of sugarcane alone, it would be better to investigate the cost of production of sugar-cane and rotation crops in order that more exact allowances may be made for the cost of bullocks and labour which would otherwise present great difficulty.

2. The Sugar Committee further recommended that the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research should co-operate with the Indian Central Cotton Committee in an enquiry into the cost of production of cotton, sugarcane and rotation crops and it left details to be settled with the Cotton Committee by the Vice-Chairman of the Research Council.

3. The principle now adopted will be that the holding will be treated as a unit and costings obtained for all the crops of the holding but with special reference to cotton and sugarcane. In other words, the main feature of the investigations will be the determination of the costs of production of sugar cane and cotton. In selecting both villages and holdings these limitations of the scheme will need to be borne in mind, otherwise the scheme would become unwieldy.

4. The agency to be employed in each province naturally will vary but the Research Council's original general scheme was as follows:—

- (a) One Economist on Rs. 1,500 per mensem (to plan and guide the enquiry and to work out the results).
- (b) One Assistant Economist at Rs. 350 per mensem in each province (to control the work within the province and to see that it keeps to the scheme laid down). The Assistant Economists would not be under the administrative control of the Chief Economist but the Principal Economist would train and give the Assistant Economist all necessary assistance and technical instruction.
- (c) For each Assistant Economist in the original sugar enquiry, four Head Investigators on Rs. 200 per mensem were proposed; these should be experienced agricultural assistants with a knowledge of the tract under investigation.
- (d) Provision was also made in the original scheme for travelling allowance and contingencies, printing, etc. the travelling allowance of the Principal Economist being estimated at Rs. 2,500 for a period of fifteen months; Assistant Economists at Rs. 1,000 each and Head Investigators at Rs. 500 each. The salaries stated above were maxima.

4 A The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has welcomed the offer of co-operation from the Indian Central Cotton Committee in this important investigation into the cost of production of certain important Indian crops. Probably the best method of working would be to appoint a small joint Sub Committee of the two bodies which

would work out details of the joint scheme and which would remain in existence to assist the Economist during the course of the enquiry.

5 In order to show more clearly the scope for co-operation between the two branches of the enquiry, the following facts may be found helpful —

- (a) In the United Provinces, it is proposed to determine the cost of sugarcane production in two tracts. One of these can quite well be a cotton tract, viz., Meerut or Aligarh districts. In the Punjab similarly two investigations into the cost of sugarcane production are intended one of which will be in the Canal Colonies (Lyallpur) and one probably in the South-east or Central Punjab. The first tract at any rate would also be an important cotton tract. In the case, therefore, of these two provinces, it will be quite simple to share the cost of the scheme.
- (b) In Bombay, the cost of sugarcane production is to be determined in the Bombay Deccan Canal area which is of minor importance from a cotton standpoint. On the other hand, there are at least four important cotton tracts where cotton production should be investigated. In Madras, the sugarcane investigation is most likely to take place in the Vizagapatam district which is not a typical cotton district, there would be only one investigation in that province into the cost of sugarcane production. An alternative district in Madras will probably be Clutterbuck which is moderately important both from the sugarcane and cotton standpoint. As in the case of Bombay, there are important cotton tracts in Madras where costs of cotton production should be ascertained.
- (c) In the Central Provinces and Berar, there is no sugarcane worth mentioning and the investigation will deal only with cotton and rotation crops. In Bihar and Orissa, on the other hand, there is no cotton and we should have simply a sugarcane enquiry.

6 These details are to be taken as illustrative rather than final but they suggest that the following general lines of co-operation between the Research Council and the Cotton Committee are practicable —

- (1) The Economist, to direct the investigation and to ensure that it is carried out on a uniform plan, should be shared equally by the two bodies.
- (2) In those Provinces where both sugarcane and cotton are under investigation the cost of the Assistant Economist should be shared between the Cotton Committee and the Research Council. In those Provinces where sugarcane is the only consideration, the Research Council should provide the Economist; in those Provinces where cotton is the sole consideration, the Assistant Economist should be provided by the Cotton Committee.
- (3) Where it is possible for the same investigators to carry out both sugarcane and the cotton enquiry as is the case in certain districts of the United Provinces and the Punjab the cost of investigation will be equally shared between the two bodies, the cost being paid entirely by the Research Council or Cotton Committee according to the nature of the investigation.

A reference has been made to the fact that the provincial agencies to carry out work will differ somewhat. In the United Provinces, for example, it has been proposed recently that the investigation should be carried out by the Board of Land Enquiry. These details could best be settled by the joint Sub-Committee proposed. In addition to appointing a Joint Committee, it seems desirable that the Economist should be engaged as soon as possible as much of the success of the enquiry will depend on a unified scheme of investigation.

7 It is proposed, therefore, that the Indian Central Cotton Committee should now —

- (1) agree to pay half of the cost of the Economist to be appointed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research at a salary not exceeding Rs. 1500 per month,
- (2) authorise the Standing Finance Sub-Committee to sanction further grants to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for the carrying out of the scheme on receipt of details, and

- (3) nominate representatives of the Indian Central Cotton Committee to a Joint Sub-Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and the Indian Central Cotton Committee which will work out details and guide the investigation.

APPENDIX XXVII.

SUBJECT 31.—*Annual Report of the Dhulia Cotton Market for the year 1930-31*

Secretary's Note.

The Dhulia cotton market is the first and only market established so far under the Bombay Cotton Markets Act, 1927. Early in 1928, the Taluka Development Association, Dhulia, passed a resolution requesting the Dhulia Municipality and the District Local Board to move Government to apply the Act to Dhulia. This was done—both the local bodies having approached Government with a request for a regulated cotton market. The leading trade members also made repeated requests. The Bombay Government agreed and the Dhulia cotton market was duly opened in December 1930. It has had nearly a year's successful working to its credit as will be seen from the copy of the Annual Report which is for information.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DHULIA COTTON MARKET FOR THE YEAR 1930-31.

Introduction—For a long time, the Government of Bombay had in view the establishment of a regulated cotton market to be run on lines similar to those in the Borars but with certain improvements. The cotton market Act was accordingly passed in 1927 and rules thereunder were framed in 1929. In February 1928, the Dhulia Taluka Development Association passed a resolution requesting local bodies viz., the District Local Board and the Dhulia Municipality to move Government to apply the Act to Dhulia. The District Local Board, West Khandesh, passed a resolution accordingly on 11th September 1928. The Dhulia Municipality also followed suit. In addition, the leading trade members, Gulabchand Shet and the late Kashunath Shet showed considerable enthusiasm in making repeated requests for a well organised and regulated market for Dhulia. The market yard (7 acres and 31 gunthias) was offered at a nominal rent and free of altered assessment for a period of three years by Mr. Colabawalla and Penkar and the Mamnad Manufacturing Company. As a result of this ready response from the local factory owners, merchants, agriculturists and local authorities, Government selected Dhulia as the first place best suited for the organization and conduct of a regulated cotton market.

It was first intended to commence the operations of the Act at the commencement of the season, viz., early in October but owing to delay in the publication of the names of the members of the Committee—elected as well as nominated—and in the decision of other questions, the Committee could not meet till 30th September 1930.

Members.—The following members constituted the first Cotton Market Committee for the triennial period ending August 1933 :—

Cotton growers.

1. Mr. Uttamrao Bhulajirao Deshmukh, Morana (Taluka Dhulia).
2. Mr. Sampatrao Ganpatrao Patil, Mukhti, (Taluka Dhulia),
3. Mr. Tikaram Kashuram Patil, Bhadna (Taluka Sakri).
4. Mr. Lahu Chimnaji Patil, Virdel (Taluka Sindkheda).
5. Mr. Govindrao Zaga Patil, Dhulia,
6. Mr. Jairam Krishna Patil, Ghodada (Taluka Sakri),
7. Mr. Yashavantrao Dalpat Patil, Varshi (Taluka Sindkheda).

Cotton Traders.

8. Mr. J. P. Tarapore, B A.
9. Mr. Gulabchand Hiralal Shet.
10. Mr. Chandrabhan Nandram Shot.
11. Mr. Chunilal Maganlal Shet.

Representatives of Local Bodies.

12. Mr. Motiram Kadu Patil (District Local Board)—From 1st October to 29th June 1931 and
Mr. Dipchand Sapadu Patil, from 30th June onwards.
13. Mr. Ganpatrao Moghaji Varade (Dhulia Municipality).

Government Nominee

14. Mr S H. Prayag, M Ag, Cotton Breeder, Khandesh, Dhulia. (Mr. S. H. Prayag was elected Chairman for the year During his absence on leave for a month and a half Mr. Govindrao Zaga Patil held the office of Chairmanship).

The following were other office bearers for the year 1930 31 appointed by the Committee for the conduct of market business

Controlling Sub-Committee.

1. Mr. S. H. Prayag,
2. Mr. J. P. Tarapore,
3. Mr. Uttamrao Bhilajirao Deshmukh.

Disputes Sub-Committee

1. Mr. J P. Tarapore,
2. Mr. Govindrao Zaga Patil,
3. Mr. G. M. Varade.

Auditors.

- 1 Mr. G. M. Varade.
- 2 Mr Govindrao Zaga Patil.

Vice Chairman—Mr. Ganpatrao Moghaji Varade remained as Vice Chairman till 21st April 1931, when Mr. Govindrao Zaga Patil took his place as Mr. G. M. Varade ceased to be on this seat owing to re election of the members in the Municipality.

Working of the regulated market and difficulties encountered.—In the beginning, the Committee experienced considerable difficulties. A large section of the cotton merchants though in favour of the application of the Act to Dhulia, desired to postpone it till the next year for reasons of trade depression and dislocation of traffic in general duo to mass Civil Disobedience Movement. Attempts were made to approach the Collector for its postponement and to move the Dhulia Municipality to send a resolution of postponement. But as the Committee had already started its work and had begun its sittings to frame the bye laws, it was considered undesirable to postpone the working.

As the Committee had to start its work without the necessary funds, Government was approached for a loan of Rs 5,000. To avoid delay, Government in their resolution (G. R. R. D. No. 374 28, dated 5th November 1930) immediately sanctioned an advance of Rs 3,000 as part of the loan. The bye laws had to be framed as the Committee could not function without these. In this, the Committee received considerable help from the late Rao Sahab K. M. Pavar (whose untimely death, the Committee so deeply mourns). These bye-laws were submitted on 13 10 1930 to the Commissioner, C D., Poona, who was kind enough to give his immediate sanction.

It was at first announced that the market was to be opened on 27th November 1930, at the hands of the Commissioner, C D., Poona. This was resented by the cotton merchants and "Hartal" was declared. The trouble assumed a serious form paralysing the trade for some time, the market being closed for five days. Wiser counsels soon prevailed and the situation was reconciled by an amicable agreement between the cotton traders and growers. The market was opened on 1st December 1930. The delay in the

opening of the market by a month and a half after the season had commenced caused some inconvenience to the strict adherence of some of the rules—Licenses had to be given to weighmen who had already been engaged by the cotton traders; open bidding could not be brought into force for some time; the cotton could not be graded and valued separately owing to the mixed nature of the cotton brought into the market. Emergency meetings had to be held and certain modifications in the by-laws had to be made. With the opening of the regulated market, there were indications of slight reduction in the rates offered for seed cotton, owing to the disallowance of all unauthorised trade allowances to which the traders were accustomed. This had a temporary set-back on the trade; some of the seed cotton carts that had come or should have come to Dhulin markets were found going to Amalner market in the hope of getting higher rates. In order to impress on the minds of cotton growers the benefits arising out of such regulated market, a vigorous propaganda had to be undertaken.

Propaganda work.—A leaflet showing the benefits to be derived from regulated market was at first printed and a thousand copies were distributed in the area that served the Dhulia Cotton Market, viz., three talukas of Dhulia, Sakri and Sindkheda. A dozen magic lantern slides showing the aims and objects of regulated markets were prepared and lectures with the help of these were delivered at the following important centres:—

(1) Kusumba, (2) Wani, (3) Arvi, (4) Songar, (5) Mukti, (6) Nyahad, (7) Nardana, (8) Dondaleha, (9) Chumthana, (10) Sindkheda, (11) Chanda, (12) Shurud, (13) Borkund, (14) Vinchur, (15) Mordad.

In addition, an officer of the Agricultural Department visited the gunnery every day for about 20 days to watch the progress, to settle the disputes and to make the necessary suggestions. Some enlightened cultivators and few representatives of the growers spread the knowledge of the obvious benefits of such a market among the illiterate and ignorant cotton growers both in the market yard and in the *mofussil*. All this had the desired salutary effect.

The total number of carts—seed cotton and lint—that entered the market from 1st December were as follows:—

Kind of cotton	No. of carts.
Seed-cotton	32,522
Lint ..	1,296
Cotton waste (low grade cotton)	96

Statement of receipts and expenditure.—See table enclosed

Staff engaged.—The following was the staff engaged during the year:—

Serial No.	Designation	Pay Rs	Allowance Rs	Remarks
		p m.	p m	
1	Superintendent	100	10	Permanent
2	Clerk ..	25	Nil	"
3	Clerk ..	25		Temporary.
4	Gatekeeper	17		"
5	"	17		"
6	"	17		"
7	"	17		"
8	"	17		"
9	Peon ..	15		Permanent.
10	Night watchman	15		Temporary
11	"	15		"
12	Sweeper ..	10		"

Meetings.—The first meeting was held on 30th September 1930. As the by-laws had to be framed, the number of General Committee and Sub Committee meetings held in October and November 1930 were frequent, there being in all 10 meetings during the course of two months. Emergency meetings were also held on 27th November and 8th December to settle certain vital issues. The total number of meetings in all was twenty-two. There was no occasion on which a meeting had to be postponed for want of a quorum.

Benefits derived.—The first outstanding feature of this market which seems to have appealed to the cotton grower is the provision for the hearing of his complaints by the Market Superintendent and by the Dispute Sub-Committee. In the unregulated market the grower is entirely at the mercy of the trader. Since first December, 167 disputes were settled by the Superintendent and 8 by the Dispute Sub-Committee. Though the task entrusted to this Committee was arduous, it is a matter of gratification to note that this Committee was able to settle the disputes to the satisfaction of both the parties and in no case was their decision set aside. The grower finds that he is given a "square deal" than what he would have got before. The other benefits obtained by the grower can be summed up as follows:—

- (1) Facilities for the stay of carts during odd hours.
- (2) Safety of cotton carts from theft.
- (3) Announcement of daily cotton prices.
- (4) Regularity and control of fees levied by cotton traders viz., Adat, Panjara-pole, etc.
- (5) Correct weighing.
- (6) No unauthorised deductions in weight and no other trade allowances except those included in the by-laws.
- (7) Proper value for the quality of cotton.

The above does not represent all that can be desired. There are still many defects and long established abuses which have yet to be overcome. Disputes arise as regards the deductions in rates or allowances to be given in cases of cotton containing earth, sand or moisture and formula is to be developed and is before the consideration of the Committee for settling these difficult questions. A good deal of improvement is, therefore, necessary before the benefits of such a market may well be realised. To effectively carry this out, alterations and modifications in the existing rules and by-laws are also necessary and the Committee has approached the authorities concerned for the necessary changes. It is hoped that most of the defects will be remedied in the course of a year or two.

Visitors.—During the year the gentlemen who had been specially deputed by the authorities concerned to pay their visits to this market, were (1) Mr. S. S. Salimath, B. Ag., Deputy Director of Agriculture, S. D., Dharwar, (2) Mr. V. V. Gadgil, B. Ag., Deputy Director of Agriculture, Konkan, Ratnagiri, (3) Mr. Syed Ali Hussain, B.A., L. T. deputed from the Managing Director, Bombay Provincial Bank. All of them expressed their satisfaction for a good beginning made in the initial stage of such a regulated market.

Conclusions.—It is a matter of gratification to note that the market, on the whole, has come out successfully through a period of unprecedented strain and though it had to face opposition from the cotton traders in the beginning, the Committee received hearty co-operation from them after the starting of the market. In the working of the Committee every help was given by all the officers of the Revenue and Agricultural Departments. The Committee is very much thankful to the Commissioner, C. D., and the Collector of West Khandesh, for the prompt assistance rendered to the Committee in the matter of advance which the Committee so badly needed in its initial stage of working. The Committee also feels very grateful to Mr. C. G. Marathe, Huzar Deputy Collector, Dhulia, for the valuable help rendered by him in the framing of the by-laws and in the modifications and amendments to the rules and by-laws and in guiding the meeting properly.

In the conduct and discharge of my work, I am glad to report that I received the hearty co-operation of all the members of the Committee and especially those of the Dispute Sub-Committee, viz., Messrs. Tarapore, Ganpatrao Varado and Govindrao Patil. Among the staff, Mr. Y. V. Salunkhe deserves special mention for the zeal and enthusiasm he put into the work by daily attending the factories and by settling the disputes on the spot. Mr. Laxing Patil also deserves praise for his hard work.

Dhulia may well be proud of being the pioneer in the opening of a regulated market in the Bombay Presidency and especially at a time when the economic depression was very great. It is hoped other markets will soon come under the regulations and make trade smooth and free from abuses.

(Sd.) S. H. PRAYAG,
Chairman,

Cotton Market Committee, Dhulia.

Dhulia,
1st September 1931.

COTTON MARKET COMMITTEE, DHULLA.

Statement showing receipts and expenditure during the year 1930-31 (from 12th October 1930 to 31st August 1931).

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
(1) Market cess	4, 63 3 0	(1) Establishment	1,819 13 0
(2) Registration and License fee	2,853 12 0	(2) Postage and telegraph	711 8 0
(3) Ground rent	97 8 0	(3) Ground rent	401 15 6
(4) Miscellaneous	296 0 0	(4) Miscellaneous	15 0 0
(5) Printing	132 0 0	(5) Printing	301 11 6
(6) Badges	25 2 0	(6) Lighting	171 13 6
(7) Postage and telegraph	45 4 0	(7) Printing	680 12 0
(8) Municipal tax etc	1 8 0	(8) Badges	303 8 0
(9) Commission	3 2 6	(9) Building	4,392 2 9
(10) Government advance	1 5 6	(10) Furniture	271 6 0
(11) Dispute Sub Committee's fee	2,090 0 0	(11) Municipal water tax etc	39 9 6
(12) Travelling allowance (refund)	0 6 0	(12) Stationery	78 13 9
		(13) Travelling allowance to members	240 8 0
		Total expenditure	9,464 9 6
		Balanceo with Urban Bank, Dhulla as undr:-	
		Current a/c	Rs 135 3 3
		Savings Bank a/c	Rs 140 2 0
		Balanceo with Mr. Ratnshri Hirji Tarawalla, Bombay.	Rs 25 0 0
		Balance on hand	Rs. 58 4 0
Total	10,023 3 0	Total	10,023 3 0

Sd/-
Superintendent,
Cotton Market, Dhulla.

Sd. S. H. PRAYAG,
Chairman,
Cotton Market Committee, Dhulla.

APPENDIX XXVIII.

SUBJECT 32.—*Investigation into the finance and marketing of cultivated cotton.*
Report of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Bombay Department, regarding the
formation of Co-operative Sale Societies in Sind.

Secretary's Note.

The Special Sub Committee, which considered the report on an amicable dispute into the finance and marketing of cultivators' cotton in Sind, recommended that Co-operative Cotton Sale Societies should be formed to provide the growers with a better outlet for their produce. This was brought to the notice of the Bombay Government who were asked to take the necessary action.

The Bombay Government have now sent extracts from the report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies on this subject. The Registrar states that the formation of co-operative Sale Societies and the establishment of regulated markets, would help the farmers to realise a better price for their produce, but additional superior staff would be required for initiating and supervising such societies, which it is not possible to provide owing to present financial stringency. As will be seen in the accompanying letter, the Government of Bombay agree with the views of the Registrar.

Copy of letter No. 4842-A 24, dated the 21st October 1931, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Revenue Department, Bombay, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay.

SUBJECT.—*Cotton—Investigation into the finance and marketing of cultivators'.*—

In continuation of the letter from this Government No. 4842 A-24, dated 7th September 1931, I am directed by the Government of Bombay (Transferred Department) to forward for your information extracts paragraphs 6 and 7 of the letter from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies No. A. S. C. 24, dated 1st August 1931, regarding the formation of the co-operative sale societies in Sind with a view to providing the growers with a better outlet for their produce and to state that Government agree with the views expressed therein.

Extract paragraphs 6 and 7 of the letter from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, No. A. S. C. 24, dated 1st August 1931.

6. *Cotton Sale Societies.*—Finally, as regards the recommendation of the Committee, printed on page 2 of the Report, viz., "That Co-operative Sale Societies should be formed to provide the growers with a better outlet for their produce": In this connection I would observe that Co-operative Sale Societies would undoubtedly furnish the best means of enabling the cultivator to secure an adequate price, especially for cotton of superior quality. There are at present 27 Cotton Sale Societies in the Presidency, including two in Sind. Their activities are described in detail in the annual reports of the Co-operative Department. In Sind, these societies have not been as successful as those in the Presidency, for reasons indicated in the Report. In Sind, there are no organised market centres. The cotton is generally bought from the zamindars either by the gin owners or by export firms through their up-country agents. The number of middlemen is sometimes larger. Sometimes, the agriculturists sell the standing crops; but such sales form a very small percentage of the total sales. Only 9.1 of the produce, belonging to 20 per cent. of the cotton cultivators, was sold in this way (see clause (5) Part I of the Report).

7. The majority of the cultivators sell the cotton at the village, both because of the cost and difficulty of transport and the trouble and loss involved in selling in an unregulated and unfamiliar urban market. In the villages, disputes about quality and price are rare. Sale in the villages further enables the cultivator to defer disposal, if the price offered appears to be low. He cannot do this, once he takes his cotton to the market or to a distant ginning factory. If an allowance is made for these factors and for the transport and other charges, generally speaking the price offered in the villages is not unfavourable to the cultivator. The establishment of well regulated cotton markets and the formation of cotton sale societies would, no doubt, remove most of the difficulties, which the small cultivator experiences at present and help him to realise a better price for his crop. Further development in this direction would, however, require additional superior staff, for initiating and supervising such societies, which we cannot afford to provide at the present moment, owing to the existing financial stringency.

APPENDIX XXIX.

SUBJECT 33.—*Export Duty on raw cotton in Bombay*

Secretary's Note.

The Bombay Corporation has finally passed the proposal to levy a cess of 4 annas a bale on all cotton exported from Bombay. Last year, when the proposal was first mooted, the Committee made a vigorous protest against it and it did so again in the month of October when the matter came a second time before the Corporation. The Committee is concerned only with the effect such a tax will have on the price paid to the grower. As the Government of Bombay has not yet accorded its sanction to the proposal, a resolution passed by the full Committee might have the desired effect.

APPENDIX XXX.

SUBJECT 34.—*Provincial Cotton Committee—Proceedings of the Central Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee.*

Secretary's Note.

Attached will be found a copy of the Minutes of a meeting of the Central Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee held on the 17th October 1931. It is refreshing to find at least one Provincial Cotton Committee alive and these minutes prove that Provincial Committees are capable of performing most useful work. It is satisfactory to know that the Cotton Transport Act is working smoothly in the Central Provinces and Berar, vide Subject No. 2.

In view of the remarks made in the note under Subject* 22, it is interesting to find that the Director of Agriculture, Central Provinces has agreed that schemes necessitating the grant of funds from the Central Cotton Committee should first be examined in detail by the Provincial Cotton Committee (Subject 3).

The Government of the Central Provinces is awaiting the views of the Central Cotton Committee regarding the effect of pools before deciding what action should be taken, vide Subject No. 9.

A resolution was passed recommending that the sale of *Perum* cotton should be done by Associations and Societies under the direction of the Co-operative and Agricultural Departments (Subject 7). The Central Cotton Committee will, I am sure, give every support to this suggestion.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Central Provinces Provincial Cotton Committee held on Saturday, the 17th October, 1931.

PRESENT.

F. J. Plymen, Esq., C.I.E., I.A.S.—Chairman, Director of Agriculture, C.P.
 R. N. Bauerjee Esq., I.O.S., Director of Industries, C.P.
 Rao Bahadur M. G. Deshpande,
 F. Currie, Esq.
 M. P. Kollie, Esq., M.L.C.
 J. R. Dokras, Esq.
 N. Mahita, Esq., Economic Botanist for Cotton, C. P.—Secretary.

VISITORS.

C. McDougall, Esq., Deputy Director of Agriculture, Economics and Marketing, C. P.
 S. Gurjar, Esq., Agricultural Assistant.

* Indian Central Cotton Committee-24th Meeting.

In opening the proceedings, the Chairman made a reference to the reports he had received regarding the condition of the cotton crop this year and said that the outlook was not free from anxiety. Continuous rain, lack of sunshine and floods in some areas had seriously damaged the crop and a big reduction in output was feared. He thought that this was a good opportunity to hear the opinions of members of the Committee, which he would communicate to Government, if necessary.

Rao Bahadur Deshpande said in his opinion the conditions this year were as bad as they could be. Cotton crop was almost a complete failure and juar too had been considerably damaged. He thought that much of the land under cotton would be ploughed up and re-sown with rabi crops.

Mr. Kolhe said he did not altogether share Rao Bahadur Deshpande's views on the subject. He agreed that cotton crop was a failure but he did not think there was much chance of the land being re-sown with rabi crops. To begin with, there was the difficulty of obtaining sufficient seed of wheat for sowing purposes and secondly, even if seed were available, in his opinion it would be too late to prepare the land for rabi sowing as the rain was still continuing. He thought that juar so far was fair but he feared that if the rain continued much longer it would deteriorate in quality. He thought it was possible that some of the land would be re-sown with gram.

Mr. Dokras said that in his opinion Verum 262 had suffered the most.

The Chairman said the Department might not have enough rabi seed of its own but, if re-sowing was considered desirable, some arrangement would have to be made for it. He said he would make a note of it and enquire from the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Western Circle, what could be done in this connection.

Mr. Banerjee enquired if there was any chance of a renewed growth giving a further output of *kapas*. It was his experience that whenever Berar had late rains there was good further yield.

The Chairman replied that some additional yield would no doubt be obtained from the secondary growth forming fresh flowers but he did not think that much could be expected in this respect from a rotten or worn-out plant.

SUBJECT No. 1.—Central Provinces Cotton Market Bill for the cotton growing districts in the Central Provinces.

Mr. Kolhe briefly explained the purport and scope of his Bill which had already been introduced in the Legislative Council and asked the Committee to support it.

The Chairman said there was no essential difference in this respect between the Central Provinces and Berar and, therefore, a similar Bill should apply in the Central Provinces as in Berar.

Rao Bahadur Deshpande said he did not know what the Bill contained and, therefore, he was opposed to the Committee supporting it. He understood that a copy of the Bill had been forwarded to the Indian Central Cotton Committee but had not yet been considered. In his opinion, a copy of the Bill should first be circulated to members of this Committee and then examined at a subsequent meeting before any opinion was expressed on it.

Mr. Banerjee pointed out that the Bill had already been published in the Central Provinces Gazette. He said that Mr. Kolhe's draft was based on the Berar Cotton and Grain Markets Law and had been approved by the Select Committee in the last Council and therefore he thought that, on principle, the Committee should have no objection to it. He thought before the Bill was passed by the Council, the Local Government was likely to give the Committee an opportunity of recording its opinion on it.

Mr. Kolhe said he had no objection to the Bill being first examined by the Committee. He would let the Secretary have a copy for circulation to members.

The Chairman, in winding up the discussion, said that as an advisory Committee our opinion should come after the public had expressed theirs. He would, if necessary, address the Revenue Secretary on the subject and say that this Committee considered that it should be given an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the Bill.

This was approved by the Committee.

The Chairman said he was in favour of Mr. Ry's proposal that any one who had any special knowledge should be invited to give evidence and a reply given.

The Committee agreed that this should be done.

SUBJECT No. 1—Import of American Cotton from the United States for preventing such importation from India.

Mr. Kolhe said he wanted to know to what extent American cotton was imported into the provinces and how this could best be prevented to safeguard the interests of the cotton grower.

Mr. Currie said the amount of imported cotton used in the mill was only about 2% . He thought India wanted to spin finer counts and if suitable cotton for this purpose could not be produced in the country, he saw no objection in importing foreign cotton.

Mr. Banerjee said he was in favour of such import as he thought that by this means India would be able to produce finer materials at home. He wished to point out that the bulk of the imported cotton was not American but Egyptian. The total quantity imported was, however, very small.

The Committee was satisfied that no action was necessary.

Subject No. 5—Results of Enquiry into ginning and pressing factory pools.

Subject No. 9—Steps taken by the Local Government to carry out the resolution proposing enquiries regarding the effect of the Pool system on the prices of cotton.

The Committee considered items No. 5 and No. 9 together.

Mr. Banerjee briefly explained the action that had been taken by Government and said that a report had been sent to the Indian Central Cotton Committee, who were taking up the matter. Before deciding on any legislative action, Government would like to know the opinion of the Indian Central Cotton Committee.

The Committee was satisfied that the matter was receiving adequate attention.

Subject No. 6—Improvement in the present method of marketing Verum cotton.

Subject No. 7—Need for setting up sub societies on the lines of the Hubli and Dharwar Cotton Sub Societies to attain the object outlined in item No. 6 above.

- The Committee considered items No. 6 and No. 7 together.

Mr. Dokras said that he had put up these subjects before the Committee because he felt that the crying need of the moment was improvement in the present method of marketing cotton. This province was contributing a considerable sum of money to the funds of the Indian Central Cotton Committee and he thought it was only right to expect that that Committee would help with funds and advice the working of any scheme designed to effect improvement in the method of marketing cotton. In this opinion the work that the Agriculture Department was now doing in this direction should be gradually transferred to Sales Societies organised under the supervision of the Co-operative Department.

Mr. Banerjee explained that this matter had been discussed before. The chief item in the organisation of Sales Societies on the lines of Hubli and Gadag was grading for which technical advice was necessary. He thought that the present method of selling Verum was at the basis Co-operative.

The Chairman said he was quite willing to hand over the marketing work to co-operative societies developed at suitable centres but he would point out that the Central Cotton Committee might not be prepared to finance all these societies. The chief requirement, he thought, was technical advice.

After further discussion, Mr. Dokras moved and Rao Bahadur Deshpande seconded the following resolution which was carried unanimously—

RESOLUTION 1—"That this Committee feels that the organisation for the sale of Verum cotton should be gradually transferred to Associations and Societies under the guidance and supervision of the Co-operative and Agriculture Department."

this as at the present price of cotton, any further tax would hit the grower severely. In his opinion, even the existing non-refundable duty of one rupee per bale on raw cotton sent into Bombay was too much.

He accordingly moved the following resolution :—

RESOLUTION No. 3.—"That this Committee feels that the proposal of the Bombay Municipal Corporation to levy an export duty of four annas per bale on cotton exported from Bombay is detrimental to the interests of the cotton growers of this province and the cotton trade of Bombay and therefore requests the Local Government to move the Government of Bombay to withhold their sanction to the proposal."

The resolution was seconded by Rao Bahadur Deshpande and carried unanimously.

D. N. MAHTA,

Secretary,

Provincial Cotton Committee,

Central Provinces.

APPENDIX XXXI.

SUBJECT 35.—*Re-use of old Hoops.*

Secretary's Note.

The following letter and enclosure from the East India Cotton Association was considered at the last meeting of the Local Sub-Committee when it was decided to refer the subject to the Central Cotton Committee so as to elicit the opinions of members on the general question of the working of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act.

Severe criticism of the working of this Act is contained in the report submitted by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on the past work and future policy of the Committee, and the opinion is expressed that the Act should be strictly enforced or, in the views of some members of the Chamber, repealed. Before the Government of India amended Rule 7 of the Rules under the Act, which deals with the method of marking bales, considerable trouble arose in Bombay regarding faulty marking and certain merchants were taking advantage of technical infringements of the Rules to get out of their contracts in a falling market. The old rule laid down a very meticulous method of marking and the omission of an asterisk on one bale in a tender was sufficient to cause the rejection of the whole tender. The Rule was amended in 1929 so as to allow of any form of marking in English characters and figures provided the marks were clearly decipherable, and "if the special mark and the serial number are stencilled in ink, they shall be stencilled on the lashed side of the bale." The East India Cotton Association also altered their rules making possible the rejection of those bales only which were faultily marked and not the whole tender. Since this amendment came into force, the Act has worked smoothly so far as the Committee is aware. The question of the use of old hoops has been before the Committee on previous occasions, and the Government of India was requested to amend the Rules so as to prohibit it but this request was refused. The amendment of Rule 7 was considered to give Trade Associations sufficient latitude to decide whether duplicate marks on hoops were the result of accident or design and if old marks were sufficiently deleted, no difficulty should arise. The use of old hoops is likely to increase and this may become a serious problem in the future. It is for consideration whether the stencilling of press marks on the hessian should not be made the only method of marking bales. Hessians are not used a second time to the same extent as hoops and the amendment proposed above would solve the difficulty.

If the existence of duplicate marks on hoops is likely to become a menace, it proves that the marking of bales is being carried out much more generally than certain members of the Trade would lead one to believe. The number of cases of faultily marked bales reported to the Committee by the East India Cotton Association during the last year has been very few, though, of course, these comprise only bales tendered in fulfilment of a contract and do not include 'spot' cotton. Certain mills in Calcutta report to the Chief Inspector of Factories any bales received with faulty marks and the Committee

The British India Corporation, Ltd.,
Cawnpore.

We have referred this matter to our Cawnpore Cotton Mills Branch, who report that so far as they are aware, there are now comparatively few cases of irregularities in respect of the marking of cotton bales.

The Cawnpore Textiles, Ltd., Cawnpore.

We have to inform you that bales which have been pressed in British India are all marked with the Press Mark of the Ginning Factory from where they have come. We have not come across any cotton delivered to us which has been subject to any malpractices such as watering, etc.

The Muir Mills Co., Ltd., Cawnpore.

We have no complaints to make.

Messrs. Atherton West & Co., Ltd.,
Cawnpore.

We have examined ten bales received in our factory from the Punjab during the last two months. These bales are marked as follows:—

1 Bale	—127P30	} From Khanawal.
1 "	—121P30	
1 "	—125P30	
1 "	—Indistinct	" "
1 "	—No mark	" "

5 bales received from Gojra bear no marks whatever on the hoops.

From the above it would appear that the marking of bales as required by the Act is not going on as smoothly as the Central Cotton Committee would think.

Messrs. West's Patent Press Co.,
Ltd., Aligarh.

We would state that since we neither deal in cotton or are in charge of mills, the circular in question does not apply to us.

The New Victoria Mills, Co., Ltd.,
Cawnpore.

We have no irregularities to report.

Copy of letter No. 309/268/27, dated the 21st April 1931, from the Secretaries, Punjab Chamber of Commerce, Delhi, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

Non-marking of bales and mal-practices.

We are directed to refer to your letter No. 3230 dated the 3rd March 1931 asking the Chamber for information as to any cases of irregularity in the marking of bales as required by the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act.

We have circularised our members who deal in cotton or are in charge of mills for information in this connection but they have no instances to give of the infringement of rules relating to marking of bales nor of other malpractices.

Copy of letter dated the 2nd April 1931, from the Assistant Secretary, Madras Chamber of Commerce, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

Non-marking of bales and malpractices.

I thank you for your letter No. 3276, dated 3rd March 1931, and to state that none of the members of the Chamber are aware of any irregularities in regard to marking of bales and other malpractices.

Extracts from letter No. 5739, dated the 18th March 1931, from the Secretary, East India Cotton Association, Ltd., to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee.

SUBJECT:—Non-Marking of bales and Malpractices.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3274 of the 3rd March 1931 on the above subject and to enclose a copy of arbitration award No. 131

* Not attached.

of 1929-30 under By-law 38, the contents of which will speak for themselves. In this case a penalty of Rs 5 per candy was imposed upon the seller by the Board. I am to add that this was the last arbitration of its kind so far as concerns the marking of bales as required by the Indian Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act.

* * * * *

Further, the members of my Association have been requested to co-operate with us in the matter by notifying to us any further instances of the infringements of the provisions of the Indian Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act and/or the rules framed thereunder and also details of malpractices such as mixing, watering, false packing or careless ginning, which may come to their notice. I am to assure you that any information that may be received from the members of my Association will be passed on to you for the information of your Committee with a view to enabling them to take necessary action in the matter.

APPENDIX XXXII.

SUBJECT 36 — Baling of cotton with cotton material—Letter from the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations.

Secretary's Note

The following letter and enclosure received from the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' & Manufacturers' Associations, Manchester, are given for the information of members.

Copy of letter dated the 24th November 1931, from the Assistant Secretary, International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations, to the Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee

For your information I beg to enclose copy of a letter addressed to Mr. A. M. Hyde, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., incorporating a resolution adopted by the International Cotton Committee at its meeting in Wiesbaden last month. It is stated that the difference in the cost of baling with this new cotton material is only 1/- per bale more than jute, but the advantages gained by the use of this form of baling more than counterbalance the additional cost. Savings are effected not only in freight but also in the spinning value of the cotton. The salvage value of the tare will, moreover, be considerably higher than that of jute tare.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly bring this correspondence to the notice of your board.

Copy of letter dated the 11th November 1931, from the General Secretary, International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations, Manchester, to Mr. A. M. Hyde, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

At a recent meeting of the International Cotton Committee held in Wiesbaden, Germany, at which representatives of practically every cotton spinning nation were present, there were submitted samples of the cotton cloth baling originated by the United States Department of Agricultural Economics in co-operation with the Cotton Textile Institute of New York. From a spinner's point of view the use of this cotton baling material would be very beneficial in that no jute fibres would become intermixed with the cotton, which is oftentimes a serious cause of bad spinning. My Committee therefore respectfully but strongly urge that you will do all in your power to influence the use of this baling material by the ginneries in your country.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, and has also been addressed to the Governments and those concerned in other cotton growing countries:—

"A satisfactory cotton baling material having been produced, this Committee strongly appeals to the Governments of the United States and Egypt to urge the adoption of this material for cotton baling in the future."

My Committee would be obliged if you would give your kind attention to this matter.